

And Jan. 15

Naturalis Square

28 Sept. 1840

My dear Gray

This note will introduce  
to you my friend W. Turnbull -  
Consul at the Havana. - He is  
very anxious to advance the  
cause of Science in every way,  
and will, I assume further our  
favourite pursuit by all the  
means in his power. - You can  
be of great service to him by  
advising him in botanical  
matters, and I think I may venture  
to add that he will repay you  
in kind. - I had the pleasure  
of a letter from you about six  
weeks since, which I intend  
very shortly to answer - sending  
you at the same time as complete  
a set of my duplicate Herbar.

as my means will furnish -  
I do this - not only on your own  
account - but likewise on ad.  
of your friend Dr. Joseph Bailey  
who I know is much interested  
in Maine Slaves - I haven't  
now time to add any more, save  
that my wife & I are quite  
well & write with me in kindest  
regards & believe me ever to  
remain

Thy dear Gray

Your affectionate Friend

N. D. Ward

Paper on any microscopical subject  
whatever, I shall feel delighted  
in reading it to the Socy.

I had hoped ere this to have  
published my little Essay on the  
Growth of Plants in closely gl. Cases  
but I cannot find time to put  
another paper & I really find the  
task rather difficult to write  
a book which shall at once  
satisfy the unlearned & not be  
tedious to the scientific part  
of the community. The little paper  
is however completed. There it  
follows for your edification.

Observations  
on the Growth of Plants  
in closely glazed Cases

E. N. P. W. F. L. S.

пудер еіо ето 20000.

You can think I am better  
little, pray let me know, as I

Am. July 24

My dear Gray

Walter Agnew  
St. Paul, Mo.

I yesterday recd. the  
packet containing the Enclosed  
Articularoides & an a. cap. & note  
dated 14. Dec. When the plant  
has been all this time I know  
not. Your most welcome packet  
by the Toronto Socy. quite safe  
several weeks ago & and should  
have replied immediately had I  
not been anxious to send you  
something in return. My time  
however for the last 3 or 4 months  
has been so incessantly & fully  
occupied in the dull & monotonous  
routine of med. practice, that I  
have scarcely been able to look  
at a letter. I am extremely  
obliged to you for the plank you  
have sent. Several of the species  
are very interesting & quite new  
to me & your N. Goldmann is

2 particularly acceptable, as it is  
very distinct from my St. Louis.  
You will receive with this also  
the duplicate *Infusoria* & *Porifera* -  
many of them of course will not  
be of any use to you for your  
Herbarium, but I thought they  
might be of service for dissection  
on the microscope. In my future  
packages you will often receive  
specimens of plants which I  
should not send to any but a  
Botanical Professor as they  
may be of use to your Pupils  
I send to you - I meant this  
time to have added my duplicate  
Alga to the Musci but must  
reserve them for the next as I  
am just now sorely pressed. I  
send you however, just to excite  
your interest - one or two lovely  
scraps - one a new *Linnaea*, named  
*Paulia* by Harvey from Old Land  
another a *Delphinium* in habit,

3.  
but *Amorpha* is structure - remarkable  
for its regular rows of 8-sided cells.  
This plant is the *Delph. rhodanthum*  
of Harvey - & a third - *Diatoma*  
oblongatum - These three are  
all beautiful microscopic objects  
& the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> will well bear the  
highest powers - Add to  
these is a little scrap of *Thamno-  
phora Telfairiae* from the Isle  
of France; having upon it a rare  
zoophyte - *Actinocyclus multiradiatus*  
which is a splendid object, when  
viewed with direct light -  
Our Microscopical Society is  
going ahead in fine style -  
We number now about 150 members  
& the President of the Dozal. Socy.  
has signified his intention of  
joining us - We mean to have  
a regularly arranged collection of  
objects, which will of course  
embrace the whole organic &  
inorganic world, something  
I think you see, in our National  
Museum - I beg to say in any way you  
please & if you will send me any



5.  
saturday 4.10.1870

My dear Mr. Ward

Since the above was written, before  
in sending it has a narrow escape  
- through my having been obliged to send  
it in consequence of having  
been taken into the system, the night  
a small wound of my finger - I am  
still exceedingly weak. I am  
so, & I think that I can with difficulty  
hold a pen - & shall be going into  
the country in the course of a few  
days where I shall be confined  
to my bed for some weeks. My doctor  
has ordered that the Polyzoides  
& ingens & both. I am with flying  
colours, so that he will be enabled  
to take me away for a time. I am  
not, I hear from Mr. Brown, as it were  
a war. Give me the greatest pleasure  
from your mentioning me.

My kind and truly all unite in  
kindest regards to those who are  
remaining in the city. I am

Your affectionate friend

W. B. Ward

5.  
I dare say you will be in time.

I have agreeably to your wish,  
enclosed rather a long list of  
desires by the Amer. Ferns, many  
of which I am quite aware, will  
not immediately be within your  
reach.

When you are kind  
enough to put up another packet  
of plants for me, pray send me  
all the Algae & cryptogamic  
plants of any kind that you  
can spare. I have for you  
fragments of a number of species  
of Ferns & other things for your  
microscope. Many of these you  
probably already possess: they may  
be of use to exchange with others.

I think when you were in England  
you mentioned to me that your  
friend Professor Bailey was anxious  
to obtain as many correctly named  
Algae as possible. Now the best  
way to accomplish this end will  
be to send to me as complete a

set of the American Alps (numbered)  
for Mr. Griffiths of Tregony, to  
whom I have already written  
upon the subject, who will I am  
sure not only correctly name those  
of which the Professor is in doubt  
but likewise give him in return  
specimens of British Alps.

My friend Harvey too, would I  
in some be glad to correspond  
with him upon this, or any other  
Botanical subject: indeed, I  
should have wished Harvey to have  
had a set of the Alps sent to him  
at first only - that he is now  
uncertain in his movements &  
might possibly be off to the Cape  
very shortly. He will I believe  
finish his work upon the British  
Alps before he leaves.

Yesterday recd. a letter from a  
W. Keble, a Missionary who has  
been settled for the last 3 years  
on one of the Navigation Islands.

He informs me that the grand object  
of the Mission were progressing to  
his satisfaction - Churches were  
erected - Schools established & a  
printing Press in full work. I  
had endeavoured to impress upon  
the mind of Mr Keble, the great  
utility, or rather the absolute necessity  
of attending to the natural products  
(& particularly the botanical) not  
only as a means of adding most  
materially to the comforts both of  
the Missionaries and the natives,  
but as the most efficient way of  
leading the infant Savage mind  
to the knowledge of a Great Truth  
cause - His advice I am happy  
to say, he has followed, and has  
prepared for me an Herbarium of  
the native Flora, which will be  
sent as soon as a convenient  
opportunity offers by the Capt  
of some Whale Ship - Many of the  
Trees & the Orchids he tells me  
are quite different from those in

My dear Fran

Wellesboro Sept 6<sup>th</sup> 1861.

I have this morning sent to Wilez  
& Putnam a packet containing all the duplicate  
Specs I need mustered, and as I knew you wanted  
them chiefly for the purpose of determining some of your  
American species, I have been careful to send you  
good & handsome specimens. Many of them indeed  
are better than I possess in my herbarium, but that is  
of little moment to me, as I can easily procure others.  
I am very much obliged to you for your beans, which  
I rec<sup>d</sup> apparently in good order & have planted them all  
in my glass houses, but I shall be able to give you  
a better account of them in another month or two,  
when the new fronds begin to be developed. I am  
afraid that the *Lycopodium lucidulum* has not been  
taken up with sufficient roots, so that it is doubtful  
whether I shall save it. I am very anxious to have  
the *Lycopodium palmatum* and  
all your *Lycopodia* particularly the *L. dendroideum* &  
(what is called) *L. obscurum*. If these be within your  
reach, pray send me a good lot. We have had one of  
the severest winters ever experienced, and I have had some  
trouble in saving my *Parasitis Zebina* & one or two others.



under tropical plants. The therm. has been repeated by  
as low as 10°. I have not been able to attend much to  
Botany since my return here. in fact I have had enough  
to do to geth. a p. p. way & my health moreover has  
compelled me to avoid our "Scientific" meetings. The  
Linnæan goes on as drowsily as ever. The Microscopical  
I am happy to say now has less 170 strong & I think will  
eventually become one of the most interesting societies in  
London. I had a party at my house two or three weeks  
back in honour of the late Dr. Theodore Vogel - who is  
about to accompany the "Buxtonian" (Quixotic?) expedition  
to the Niger as Botanist. The powers varied from  
60 to 1500 linear & numerous interesting were the objects  
exhibited. We had numerous fine anatom. injections &  
among them, I as fine as any of them - one of the capillaries  
of the Cheek made a century ago by the celebrated Lieberkühn.

There are several such preparations in the College of  
Surgeons, which belonged to the celebrated Hunter - each of  
them mounted on a separate microscope. Saw Berkeley  
a few days ago, and he begged me to remember him most  
kindly to you & to say that, as soon as he rec<sup>d</sup>. spring  
he would write to you. Our venerable old friend Morris  
is quite well but he has sustained a most serious  
bereavement in the death of his companion Miss Brown.

his late wife's sister, whom you knew & who lived with  
him from the period of his wife's decease. - His great  
love of plants however still continues & will serve to  
regulate many a weary hour. Lamy is now at the  
Cape, waiting away as furiously as ever. He wrote me  
in the last that he had just returned from a journey  
to the summit of Table Mountain & that he had discovered  
a series of habitats of that rare & beautiful & hideous  
plant the *Disa grandiflora* - enough to supply all Europe  
Ere this he will, if nothing has prevented, have visited  
Hortensia's Holland where he expected to make a great  
harvest. He will I doubt not spend his time most  
pleasantly at the Cape as he is not now compelled  
regularly to be in Cape Town twice a week without  
fail. This enables him to make much longer excursions  
than he was enabled to do on his first visit.

May let me hear from you soon & give me all the botanical  
information you can - as nothing tends more to support  
Leriven me under the most onerous & sometimes weary life  
my profession compels me to lead. My wife & Family  
are all I am delighted to say & unite with me in the  
kindest regards & best wishes & Believe me Ever  
truly  
Your sincerely attached Friend  
N. B. Ward



Revised Nov 28  
1861

Nov 28, 1861

My Wife & Family beg to unite with me in kindest regards  
to Mr. & Mrs. C. & to remain ever their friends. N. W. P.

Apr 20 - 1892. N. W. W.

27 March 1843

My dear Gray  
Ams. Aug. 11<sup>th</sup>.

Ans. Aug. 11<sup>th</sup>.

Байер-но-ле-Ван-Контин 2002

When I rec<sup>d</sup> your last kind letter, I immediately executed that portion of it which related to an interchange of plants between you & Loddiges. I should have certainly replied to it at once had I not been oppressed with business, which caused me to defer it from day to day until a more convenient season, which however came not. This hurried life continued until about three months ago I was attacked with a most severe affection of the right sciatic and crural nerves, which completely crippled & incapacitated me to bed for nine or ten weeks. I am only just recovering, and take the earliest opportunity of informing you that I am not unmindful of your kindness. I have of course not been able to pay much attention to botanical subjects, my time for the last two months having been completely taken up by working at my most laborious labours. Nothing however gives me greater relief or more pleasure, than the occasional letters which I have received from you & other kind friends - (would that they arrived more frequently). Among these I have lately received one from W. Loddiges of the Exeter - the one filled with the results of his microscopical examination and dissections of myces, and the other containing a lovely



Description of the vegetation of Terra del Fuoco & the Falklands. I cannot do better than copy a portion for your amusement. Our stay at Cape Horn was very pleasant though there was a good deal of snow & wind, the former often preventing my excursions in the hills but seldom in the woods, which really contain far more species than I could have believed. *Leptodermis hesperia* is a tree in the market so common that I hardly call it of use enough. The noble *Polystichum dendroides*, but very rare inf. & two or three other species. The lichens & fungus: most abundant, & very beautiful. The woods are formed of the two *Peuceas*, *Persea*, *Exellaria*, *Berberis* & a few others of smaller stature. Not having seen vegetation properly as called for a long time, I was delighted with all I saw & filled my case with the trees, shrubs & many alpine plants to send home. Unfortunately the season was rather too far advanced for the trees. A few of the poor Fuegian women used to come down to the ship but they are so admirably described by Darwin, here, & Tataroz, that I can add nothing to their accounts. The botanical features of the Falklands are as you know totally at variance with those of Fuegia, though enjoying perhaps a very similar mean temp., or if any difference, prob. in favour of the Falk.; & yet Fuegia is wooded to a degree unknown in Scotland & even in our south as 50°. The veg. is so luxuriant, that the earth for 100 ft. upwards, is covered with a dense mass of foliage on all the sheltered shores. This diff. depends on the soil, the formation of the land & the diurnal var. of temp. & the hygrom. state of the atmosphere in the Falk. presenting a most remarkable contrast

to those features in Fuegia. Sheds of hard, very stiff & good clay invariably is found in the Falk. under the peat, never more than 3-4 ft. deep. & on it the peat rests, this clay overlies again the granite rocks, sandstone & clay slate. The land is all low & flat, rising into a few long undulating ranges of hills, enclosing broad valleys, only on the Duarte distinct. Shelter is no where to be found. The therm. often during summer rises to a temp. of 60-70 & at night falls to 32°. & under & from the atmosphere being more often clear at night & day than in Fuegia, the sun's rays have more power & the effect of cold produced by nocturnal radiation from the earth much increased. The vapours of the Atlantic brought by the west winds are prob. all deposited on the higher mountains of the West. Island for here (Berkely Sound) their dew is so wonderful & such as I have witnessed nowhere else. After during this month (Nov.) a snow fall of 10 degrees several times 26-20 once 32°. & of difference I have found to intervene bet. the temp. & the temp. at which moisture would be precipitated. Had it been the vapour effect of the atmosphere & you will at once see how disposing the effects produced on a temperate land the world be. Parallel walls are favorable to the ripening of fruit in England because they, by cutting off from the face of the fruit trees a cold portion of the face of heaven, prevent the radiation of heat during the night, and by the same token the deep valleys of Fuegia afford an immense shelter to its trees. The vapour of the Air is at once condensed on its surface. Hence the air of the sea is so constantly clouded, that I never got more than 6:30 p.m. before the therm. in a parabolic reflector & the shaded one at night, and that on 3 or 4 or 5 times. The valleys are exposed to all the moisture & mist deposited in the air & mountains tower. & the evaporation is effected by

the sheltered sides by the force of the sun's rays, never vertical  
 seldom from the steepness of the hills bounding their north-  
 slopes, and almost always seen through a slight mist, & as  
 the slightest cloud prevents solar radiation much of its effect  
 is lost. The wind cannot enter these valleys, except in great  
 squalls always or generally accompanied by rain & thus can-  
 not aid by carrying off the vaporous moisture. All this tends  
 to cover the region with wood, and make its valleys teem with  
 Cyphopogon, and as the mean thermal temp. is little above the

Dr. H. A. Gray



mean thermal temperature is to be looked for. These  
 antarctic climates have no parallel & no analogy in the  
 world - thus every feature connected with the geography of this  
 plant is of the deepest interest." I know not whether I have  
 yet thanked you for your letter both & your kind mention of  
 me in it - With the book I am delighted as it contains the  
 essence of Lindley's two bulky vol: - You will be pleased to  
 hear that the *Musa Cavendishii* has been introduced into the  
 Tongatabu Islands by means of my enclosed cases, and is flourishing  
 & spreading rapidly to the great delight of the natives



Amos  
Nov 11

My dear Gray

Wellstone Square Almas road

This happy season of the year generally collects together all old friends & recalls more forcibly to mind those who are far distant. You must not however, imagine that during the past year I have quite forgotten you - on the contrary, I have continually reproached myself for my neglect, but would not write to you, while I could accompany my letter with something more substantial than words. - You - happy man - are free from the constant worry & occupation of medical practice, and know not at least to the full extent - the complete occupational encephalopathy of every moment of a General Practitioner's time, I know very little leisure there is for any pursuits - not strictly professional. - I must not however and will not complain, I am far better off than I have been before, and, as my name is now rising in repute - have some prospect of being able to devote a little more time to heretofore - to botanical pursuits. I have this year enjoyed a very great treat in traversing some of the most beautiful portions of Ireland in company with my friend Harcourt. Indeed



not tell you that, with such a *compagnon de voyage*, I could  
not fail to reap much information & delight. The state of  
Ireland is a perfect opprobrium to any civilized state. I  
question whether any of the tribes of your Indians are half  
so wretchedly off, as are these beggared & ignorant creatures.

To compare their condition with that of the beasts of the field  
or the fowl would be a libel on the animal creation. The  
sequalid monotony of their rude stone or mud cabins is past  
belief. We traversed nearly 600 miles of ground everywhere  
finding the same utter want of comfort & cleanliness, and as  
to decoration or relief of any kind, such a thing never for a  
moment entered into their heads. Throughout England, the  
villages in general form the most pleasing portion of the  
landscape, decorated as they frequently are, with roses - sweet  
briars - honeysuckles &c. &c. - but here (with the exception of  
two places) the total amount of superfluities in & about the  
thousands of cabins - was - one rose - one japonica - one or  
two wall-flowers. & a couple of bird cages. - I think I am  
speaking of that portion of the country where the Dr. Cath.  
religion is dominant. In the north of Ireland - things  
are much better. I was exceedingly delighted however, with  
the exuberant luxuriance of the Euphorbia vegetation at  
Killybegs. - *Euphorbia* *Wilsoni* & *subulnigrum* *culend.*

for the matter with innumerable *Asplenium* & *Junceum* & *maritima*  
and we found one specimen of *Trichomanes speciosum* - or  
radicans - assuming a really tropical appearance - a portion  
of its creeping rhizoma about 12 inches in length propped  
twenty perfect alternate fronds. - Harvey is getting on well  
with his *Phytologia* - but the colourer does not do justice  
to his figures. - You have of course heard that Harvey is about  
to publish descriptions of all the Australasian flies with figures  
of 100 of the most remarkable species. - Can you help him at  
all in this matter? - I am most thankful for any  
news - I must say a few words re: the contents of a case  
I have sent you by the Oberlin. There are about 1500 species  
plants & such a motley & heterogeneous group. I will venture  
to say, you never before received. I have not the least idea  
that more than a fourth or fifth of this number will be useful  
resting to you, but I thought - from the position you hold they  
might be acceptable for the purpose of distribution. At any rate,  
I have sent all I could, & were I as rich as Croesus, I could  
afford, like him, to purchase the collections of travellers, I might  
have been able to have sent you something more worthy of your  
acceptance. As I wish to get as many specimens in the case, as possible  
I have not tied them in separate bundles, but in successive layers  
so they will take a little more time & trouble in unpacking, as  
each specimen must be taken out separat. - I have sent you for  
your garden a few seeds which I have just rec. from Mr. B.  
Garden, Sydney. - My dried cases are gradually extending among  
all classes of <sup>the</sup> community, and have been recommended in an official



report to Government by the 'Health of Towns Commission' - as one  
means of improving the condition of the labouring poor. I have  
recd. several pleasing comments from members of the working classes  
in various towns in England - but I am very anxious to obtain  
some reports on the use & application of these cases from your country  
men. - I have, therefore, taken the liberty of enclosing a dozen  
copies of my little work, which you will greatly oblige me by  
giving them to those who feel interested in the matter. I hope

Dr. John Gray

Prof. of Natural History & Geology  
Harvard University

Cambridge - Boston  
United States



Dr. Bigelow will not think me presumptuous in offering him a copy.  
Two or three months ago, I was favoured with a visit from Prof.  
Linnæus (son of *Isakia opicatus*) of Stockholm, Prof. of Surgery &c. &c.  
Presiding Sec. of the Acad. Soc. of Sweden, to which body I have had  
the honour to be elected a fellow - I believe I shall have the grace  
to thank you for the recd. of your admirable text book. It is a  
most useful & excellent work - My wife and family are I am happy  
to say well and all who know you, unite with me in wishing  
you many happy returns of the season & Believe me ever to be  
My dear Gray Your affect. Friend  
N. B. Ward

My dear Friend

Caplam Rise 3 1/2 miles S.  
of London - 29 Jan 1849.

I am very much afraid that long as this -  
you must have given me up - or at any rate imagined that  
I had quite forgotten my old friends. The fact is that since  
I last wrote some changes have taken place in our family arrange-  
ments which have so completely occupied my time & engrossed my  
attention that I have not paid that attention which I ought to  
my old valued correspondents. - My eldest son D. S. W. married  
in April last - & is now living in the old house in Melrose Sq.  
& I have removed to my present abode within reach of school -  
my old habits & with the prospect of many new ones - you  
understand - can throw but little to the dogs. - I am obliged for  
the sake of my children to continue to cultivate its acquaintance.  
but I have thank God - many compensating blessings & amongst  
not the least of these is a small garden with tolerably fine in  
which roses (the Turkish) & in which I have built a clove house  
about 30 ft. by 16 - in which I have built up my antediluvian  
plants & which of course - I intend to make one of the wonders of  
the world!! I think however, that my capabilities are infinitely  
greater than the space in the old habitat - as in the latter the sun  
never shone in June of the winter months - whereas now I







Dr. H. A. Gray  
Professor of Natural History  
Harvard University - Cambridge  
Massachusetts - U. S. A.



My dear Gray

Clapham Place  
10 April 1849

I have again to thank you for  
a very interesting addition to my classical  
library & for your introduction to your  
friend Mr. Cunningham - whom I regret  
not having seen much more of - but I  
trust he will one day favour us with  
a longer visit. I called on Darplin  
agreeably to your request - for the purpose  
of blowing him up - & of procuring you  
the books you require. He told me however  
that he had only sold 3 or 4 copies of the  
Chloris - (the best he has sent to me)  
& that you were indebted to him - as  
according to the enclosed account -  
£2.7.0. Under these circumstances, I  
have not of course bought you any books.  
Will you kindly let me know whether



this balance be correct - No matter I shall  
settle it for you - Be assured that <sup>I</sup> ~~you~~  
~~cannot please me more~~ <sup>be more</sup> than by executing  
any commission - or working in any way  
for you. - Perhaps you may think of  
some parties to whom I can - and our name  
present the Chlois - You of course  
have heard ere this of Harveys intended  
visit to America - He is going to give  
12 lectures at Boston. Wish it were in  
my power to accompany him - but my  
working days are over. - Nothing however  
could have afforded me so much pleasure  
as to have visited the land of your birth  
& paid by personal respects to the first  
of American Unitarians. - My new  
house is beginning to excite the admiration  
of my money-getting neighbours - who  
before long will really begin to think  
that there are more things in heaven & earth than they  
have dreamt of in their philosophy



envelopes during the formation of the fruit and seed in  
Mirabilis, Elæagnus, Morus, Fragaria, Anacardium?

10. Enumerate briefly the principal diseases to which plants are subject, their causes and probable modes of prevention and cure.
11. Define the term *species*.
12. Give the characters of the *classes* according to the Natural System.
13. Give the characters of the *orders* which furnish us with Ipecacuanha, Rhubarb, Jalap, Belladonna, Opium, Peruvian bark, and Sarsaparilla.
14. Describe fully the plants numbered 1 to 4.

The plants were - *Nibulica*, *Thymica*

*Adiantum latifolium*

*Simulium luteum*

*Thymum*, *Panicaria*

N. B. WARD.

My dear Gray      Apothecaries Hall  
1 Aug. 1849 -

You are perhaps aware that the Com<sup>rs</sup> of Apothecaries give prizes and to the students who attend the London School of Medicine & that I have had the honour of being for the last 15 or 16 years the Examiner there am I then, surrounded by men who are wishing me & my questions at Bath. They set however quietly to work, and I am really astonished at the amount of information they possess on the subject. If you have such examinations in your University you would much oblige me by sending me a few of your papers. - Affectionately & truly  
Wm. H. W. Ward

dined with me on the 11. of last month & is I suppose by this time in America. I feel assured that he will not discredit your kind recommendations - I know of but few who possess such love (arising from knowledge) of Doct<sup>r</sup> as he does - Like yourself & my friend Wm. H. W. he loves Doct<sup>r</sup> for his own sake & finds in it a great reward. - I cannot tell you how your kind invitation to join Flawley at your house & accompany you to Niagara has dwelt upon my mind & filled my waking & even my sleeping thoughts - could I have acted selfishly without regard to others in the matter - I would most certainly have joined you with my Wife. but Duty steps in - it is impossible - I must therefore content myself with hearing of - as I cannot be a party to - your proceedings. I re-assured that you have my best wishes for ever happiness & success this world can afford you - My Wife & I look forward with much pleasure to a visit from you & your lovely Lady. We will use our best endeavours to make you happy & I am sure you will not find the slightest inconvenience at being so far out of London as we are within 12 hours of each point

of the great metropolies not a brace 1/2 of  
 an hour from Kent which is now under  
 the auspices of Sir W. Hooper - belonging  
 worth of England. The old physic  
 garden begueth a century & a half ago  
 to the be. of Apothecaries & which had lain  
 dormant a number of years - is now lifting  
 up its head & becoming a source of great  
 information to those by students I am now  
 examining. It proposes the great merit  
 of being within their reach & I am most  
 anxious to render it as - efficient as possible  
 & have enclosed a list of the desiderata of this  
 garden & shall be much obliged to you if  
 you can assist me - either by roots or seeds -  
 in supplying their wants - & I think upon  
 public ground that the Chelsea garden  
 supported as it has been - since the days  
 of Sloane - by our comp<sup>y</sup> - at an expense of  
 from 500 to 1000 a year - upon purely scientific  
 grounds deserves encouragement & support  
 from all well-wishers to the cause

Can you by the bye - give me any information  
 re: the comparative merits of the Polmaise  
 hot water systems? - The Polmaise has  
 well failed within in one of our new houses.  
 We have been compelled to replace it with  
 a hot water apparatus - May I be allowed to  
 remind you of your kind promise to send me some

ferns - I have a large case especially adapted  
 for them from N. Am. - I had great hopes of sending  
 to Curum? - Cantharus? - I Nov. 1844.  
 From the time that I opened the first part of this  
 note to the present I have had so much illness  
 at home & abroad - that all comes off - barless & one  
 away with it. Mr. Ward has been most severe & I  
 feel for him but he is at sea with his don with a  
 doctor & are now that for - Brighton. Please  
 say well. With our united best wishes -  
 EXAMINATION PAPER, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 1849.

HOURS FROM 10 A.M., UNTIL 6 P.M.

Believe me  
 Ever your friend  
 Yours affly  
 N. B. Ward

1. Describe the structure of starch granules, and name those plants, or families of plants, which are distinguished by granules of peculiar form.
2. What are the characters which separate true from adventitious roots?
3. Describe the normal and abnormal structure and mode of growth of dicotyledonous stems.
4. Name the various structures which have been described as specimens of arillus.
5. Describe and give examples of the various kinds of veneration.
6. Illustrate the importance of a knowledge of those laws which regulate the geographical distribution of plants.
7. What do plants live upon?
8. It has been ascertained that many plants, such as ferns, cactuses, &c., if planted in duly moistened mould in glass vessels, covered with oiled silk, and exposed to light, will grow for ten or fifteen years without fresh supplies of water. Give the rationale of this mode of treatment.
9. What are the changes which take place in the floral

W. J. F.



My dear Gray

Clapham Rise  
3 1/2 miles S. of Greenwich  
Stratford London Bridge

13. May 1853-

I have this moment heard from  
Harvey - who has just arrived at Liver-  
pool in good health & spirits after a  
pleasant voyage of 13 days in your new  
steam ship the Atlantic. He tells me  
that you are about to leave on the 5<sup>th</sup>  
of June for England. I imagined that  
you were not to have left until the  
end of the month - or I should have  
written you earlier - but the cause  
of my delay has been the very uncertain  
& at one time, dangerous state in which  
my dear Wife has been during the last  
five or six months - I am however  
most happy to tell you - that - during the  
last two or three weeks - a most favor-  
able change has taken place - all the  
severe symptoms have passed away & our  
prospects for the future are most encouraging

Mr Harvey.

May 13 - 53

Clapham Rise



By the time you arrive in England, I  
trust she will be herself again - She  
writes with me & mine in begging you  
& Mr. Gray to consider our house as your  
home for as long a time as may be conve-  
nient & pleasant to you - We have now  
always a spare bed & pray that Mr. Gray  
shall shield she be freed from the effects  
of the voyage or from other causes - My  
Wife & Daughters are most excellent  
nurses & would be but too happy to  
minister to her comfort in any way.

You must not consider this as an  
idle compliment - but take it as it is  
meant - you cannot confer a greater  
pleasure upon us. - I have to

thank you again for your most interesting  
most beautiful ferns. - I know all  
how I can make you any returns - but you  
are one of those who feel with our great  
poet - that it is more blessed to give than  
to receive. - My plants are gone on  
most beautifully - although I have but  
a small garden it will soon be very well  
filled - Thanks to the kindness of my friends

and now. I shall be enabled to enjoy  
cystological pursuits a little more - as  
I have had a very handsome legacy left to  
me by a dear old patient - which my father  
first attended seventy-five years ago  
- who - during the whole of that period  
has been a most warm friend to our family.

The *Vernonia* & *Empicula* - taken which  
Harry sent me in the winter are growing  
most splendidly & I have a glorious  
specimen of *Dicksonia antarchica* which  
is the envy of all cultivators of ferns.

But I must conclude as I am  
anxious to send this off to London -

All the rest of my family are quite  
well & unite in best wishes -

Ever / your affect. Friend  
N. B. Ward -

N. B. - When you arrive at London  
Bridge - a cab will bring you to my  
house in 25 or 30 minutes - & do not  
hesitate to come without previous  
arrangement - as you will find us always  
ready to receive & welcome you -

were in a dormant state wrapped up  
in a bit of oil silk for two weeks.  
but pray give yourself no concern about  
it.

All good wishes in best wishes  
for the continued health of yourself  
& Mr. Gray with our kindest  
regards to her -

Believe me ever to be

Your affect. Friend  
N. B. Ward

My dear Gray      Captain Rice  
6 Aug 1852

I have just rec'd your letter  
dated the 1<sup>st</sup> of August & must in the  
first place apologise to you for not  
having transmitted your letters earlier  
but I thought I was fulfilling your  
request that they should reach Geneva  
by the 10<sup>th</sup> of this month. I had  
learned & understood your last instruc-  
tions to be & noted them down - I  
dispatched them on the 3<sup>rd</sup> & will  
forward you any others that may arise  
agreeing to your wish - No Geneva  
if they arrive within 3 days - subse-  
quently to Zurich - We were all  
much interested to hear that Mr. Gray  
had been suffering so much from her  
eyes, but trust that they may be quite  
restored before you leave Geneva, as  
there will be so much of interest for  
her in your future peregrinations -

Left Mr. Ward yesterday at Dunbridge  
Wells & am happy to say that she  
continues to gain ground - having been  
out every day during the past week.  
The Goringham County is most  
beautiful & picturesque - abounding  
in sandstone rocks - the favorite  
habitat of *Synsphyllum turbinatum*  
which is still to be found - notwithstanding  
the annual depredations of collectors  
for Devon. cases. - I am just now  
very busy with the medical & other prac-  
tice & am moreover preparing my  
examination papers for next week.  
I give you - as a specimen - a bit from  
Linnaeus - which you perhaps have  
not met with - *Singulaeque Cretae*  
*Ter Opt. Max. in glob. rockis terraqueis*  
*productis ordines & sexa inter se*  
*cohaerent mirabili, & a mutuis offi-*  
*cis conservationem expectant perpe-*  
*tuam Pyrenaei have to illustrate this*

passage by pointing out the connections  
& dependencies of the vegetable kingdom.  
One of my friends of whom I spoke to  
you is now as journeying in  
Switzerland - Mr. J. Jackson is now  
lying with a broken leg at the Hotel  
at Interlachen - his horse having  
fallen over a precipice on the ascent  
of the Wenglen Alp. Mr. J. felt the  
earth giving way & managed to get  
his feet out of the stirrups - caught  
hold of a bush in his descent was  
brought to on a ledge of rock - the  
horse was killed. He is accompanied  
by his kind friends & relatives Mr.  
& Mrs. Weavers. - Should you visit  
Interlachen - pray see them at the  
Hotel & give all our kindest best  
regards to them. - If you meet with  
the *Woodias* - the *Asplen. fontanum* or *Halim*  
or the *Gymnospermum Euphylla* - send me  
without much trouble - bring me a root  
or two - I think that they would be very



Thank you for your interest. & pray let me hear soon from you.

My dear Gray

Clapham Place 4. Sept. 1855.

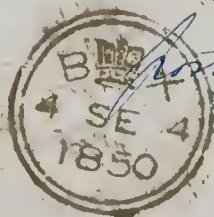
This is the thirty second anniversary of my Wedding day. May you & your good wife have as much reason to be joyful & thankful - when you have lived together as long as we have. I returned just from a visit to Selborne & Alford Tansy with Aunt - that I never spent five or six days - with so much delight. Seeing Nature in company with Cole & Garrell is equivalent to the possession of a real sense. I have learnt more of the manners & habits of Birds & other animals - than I ever possessed - I do as cannot communicate such knowledge. Cole is indeed a worthy successor of Gilbert White. I possess far more general knowledge - with the most active habits of benevolence & considerable medical knowledge. He is truly able to the neighbourhood in which he resides - the more so - as no medical man resides within 5 miles. - Yesterday the L. Cab. met us at Guildford & we had a ten mile walk over the High. back an elevated ridge of land - dividing the beautifully undulating country between Dorset & the South Coast into two nearly equal portions raised high to give commanding views of every interesting point. My wife continues to improve & is able to visit with me to Mr. Geo. Fox himself & to believe me ever Affly Yours  
V. B. Ward

Mr. Ward  
Copenhagen Nov 1850

104

U.S.

D. Asa Gray



Poste restante

Munich

Bohemia

242

[Autumn 1850]

My dear Gray.  
Copley  
1850.

I was at the Linsan  
Sal. last evening. I got the good wishes  
& condolences of the fellows and  
set you on your legs again - you  
would not soon be with us - I  
have to communicate to you the  
special regards & good wishes of  
Brown - Brewster - Wadsworth.

We had rather an interesting meeting.  
Two more Germans were present  
who had spent several months in  
the highest elevations of the Alps  
& Tyrol for the purpose of  
more accurately investigating their



physical condition. They have discovered many new Lichens & some other plants & I have published the result of their researches in a large volume which was presented to the Socy. One of them - in very good English - gave some interesting observations upon the subject. The Great Exhibition - or the world's fair - as your Countrymen call it - divide the attention with the attempts at supremacy of the Pope.

With respect to the first - every endeavour is making to render it as interesting as possible. -

Moreover - a Manual is preparing as a Guide to unexpected foreign visitors - speaking of movement in

science or art - in which London. The Duke of Devonshire's head Gardener at Chiswick - was with me the other day to obtain an act. of my new closed house to be inserted in my Guide - so that I may expect an addition to my rare Book. I must put my house in order. -

I must however now wind up for the present with our best wishes for your speedy recovery & pray recollect that my house is already for your reception whenever you can make me a visit - & that we have plenty of Nources to wait upon you & assist M<sup>rs</sup> Gray.

My Wife & I are sent them kindest regards - Ever Yours truly  
- W. B. R. & C.

My dear Gray

Caplan House  
30. Oct. 1856

I have but little of interest  
to tell you - save that my dear Wife has  
returned from Dr. Bridge - Well much  
improved in strength, and, although  
we cannot expect to get rid alto-  
gether of the Nerve - the attacks  
are at longer intervals much less  
severe - so that we must hope for the  
best. We are very glad to hear that  
you & W. Gray are enjoying yourselves  
so much at Haverford & hope that  
you will soon be with us again -  
in full health & vigour for your winter  
campaign - I have just been writing

My Friend

Caplan

Oct. 30. 56

up four or five loads of brick-bats  
into a receptacle for British &  
hard ferns - The good old part of  
my rockery consists of an arch - a crab-  
of high - through the canon of  
which water is constantly to trickle  
affording a fine surface habitat for  
Lycopodium - Dicksonia &c.

This arch is now shaded by a *Chamae-*  
*the* first plant placed within was  
your *dendroideum* - so that I am  
not likely to forget my N. Am. friends  
When you see Mackay - tell him that  
I shall feel much obliged by any hardy  
ferns he may have to spare, as I think  
I can now accommodate 2 or 300 species  
If he happens to have plenty of *Tri-*  
*domenus* - I would much like a list  
or two - Pray tell Mr Gray how  
delighted I am with the correspond.

of Barham. I have read a large  
portion of it & have been exceedingly  
pleased with the simple minded writer &  
the numerous details sent - plant which  
most of which I have been more or less  
inoculated from my youth up. Now that  
I have the means - I hope to have more  
of my red flowered *legue* & *aroidae*.

Pray remember me kindly to Mr Bentham  
say that I hope to have the pleasure of  
receiving him when next he visits London.

My family sends kindest regards  
to Mr Gray & yourself & I believe  
me ever

Your aff. friend  
N. D. Ward



14th. 1861.

14th. 1861.

14th. 1861.

14th. 1861.

S. Q.

My dear Gay

Clapham Place  
21 Dec: 1861

I was delighted to see  
your hand-writing again & at the  
same time disappointed in not having  
the pleasure of "losing" you to a  
visit from you - but it will be  
perhaps - to carry out your present  
plan, as it will give both yourself  
& Mrs. Gray less trouble. - We shall hope  
however to see you on Christmas Day. You  
must not think of reaching the sea  
Coast. - You will find the Railway  
from there most convenient - taking  
care to go no further than Vauxhall  
where you will find a Cab. With the  
united best wishes of my Wife & of us  
all to Mrs. Gray & yourself. Believe me  
Ever, Yours affly. N. B. Ward

D. A. Gray

Do, do, do come,  
dear Dr. & Mrs. Gray.

will be enabled to return to Clapham  
next week. He much regrets not  
having seen you & W.<sup>o</sup> Gray before your  
departure —

My Daughters unite with me in  
kindest regards to W.<sup>o</sup> G. & yourself  
wishing you a pleasant voyage and  
happy meeting with all your friends  
in your native Land —

Believe me Ever

Yours affectionately  
N. B. Ward

My dear Gray      Apthorpes Hall  
13 Aug 1851. —

Here I am — spending my  
60.<sup>th</sup> Birthday — in a manner most  
uncongenial to my feelings — away from  
all I hold dear & surrounded by men  
who are wishing me at Bath. — Their  
wishes however — are reciprocated —

I sent you a day or two ago — the plants  
which W.<sup>o</sup> Mallard collected for me on  
Darling Downs about 70 miles from  
Minkel-Pony. — Should you think it worth  
your while to examine & report upon any  
of them — it would give me the greatest  
pleasure. — And you (if you found any  
thing new) — give her the credit of it.  
She is well deserving — & so indeed is  
her husband — who carried out my first  
experimental cares to New Holland  
of any honour that may be conferred upon  
them. — My friend Dr. Stanger is just



arrived from Port Natal bringing with  
him two cases of living plants which  
are now at Clapham. Amongst them is  
*Juncea superba* in fine order. Several  
very interesting & as I imagine - some  
new things. - D.S. has made many  
interesting collections of Alga for Murray  
has brought home with him a number of  
P.A. ferns - which I am to have. D.S.  
has been for some years in S. Africa &  
will I believe return there in a very  
few months. - He is a highly intelligent  
man - tolerably versed in Botany & Nat.  
History - and if you are in want of any  
information upon such points from Natal  
he would be most happy to render you  
any assistance. - He tells me that  
there is a large Tree Fern growing about  
Port Natal & that its habitat is very  
singular - always growing in deep  
hollows - or rather holes - in the ground  
of the depth of from 20 to 25 feet - the  
crown of the plant rising to 10 or more  
feet above the level of the earth.

D.S. is one of the <sup>very</sup> few who escaped  
with their lives from the last ill-fated  
Niger Expedition - when D. Vogel & so  
many others perished. - I can recollect.  
D.S. & D. W. Williams brought the steamer  
back to the coast - the one working the  
Engine & the other steering. - D.S.  
attributed his immunity from fever to  
his mode of living. - As soon as he arrived  
in the malarious atmosphere he took 15 or  
20 grains of Quinine daily as a preventive  
lived upon boiled pale ale - good stout  
& preserved game - no bad fare.  
I have <sup>as yet</sup> heard nothing of your letter to the  
Times & know not whether it will be  
inserted - but I am now most busy  
in preparing a new edition of your little  
work & shall be much indebted to  
you for any suggestions you may be  
inclined to give me about it. I mean  
to give one or two illustrations - and  
 devote a chapter to the mismanagement  
of plants in dried cases.

You will be happy to hear that  
Mrs. Ward is improving - I hope she

# BOTANY.

EXAMINATION PAPER, AUGUST 13, 1851.

Hours—from 10 A.M., till 6 P.M.

1. Translate the following passage from the "*Philosophia Botanica*"—and bear in mind the principle therein conveyed in the answers to the succeeding questions.

"Pulchritudo artis brevitatem exposcit; nam quo simplicius, eo ctiam et melius, et stultum est facere per plura, quod fieri potest per pauciora: Natura ctiam ipsa compendiosissima est in omni suâ actione."

2. Give an account of the various opinions respecting the fertilization of the ovule.

3. Describe and give examples of the different positions of the ovule in the ovary.

4. State the different methods of germination observable in the embryos of monocotyledenous and dicotyledenous plants.

5. Show the analogy which exists between the stamen of phanerogamous plants, and the sporophyll in Cryptogamia.

6. State the mode of reproduction in Rhizocarpeæ.

7. Give examples of the different kinds of placentation; and state the various theories of Schleiden and others upon this subject.

8. Describe and give examples of the various kinds of receptacle.

9. Describe the various ways in which the fundamental structure of a flower may be disguised.

10. Illustrate the fact—that the lower we descend in the scale of organization the more independence does the individual cell possess, and the greater number of functions does it exercise.

11. Define the following terms—*Spora*, *Sporangium*, *Sporocarpium*.

12. Describe the *albumen*, and the substances or parts of plants which have been confounded with it by various botanists.

13. Define and give examples of *apocarpous*, *syncarpous*, and *aggregate* fruits.

14. Describe the changes which take place in the ovary, during the maturation of the seed, in the following—*Artocarpus*, *Ficus*, *Bromelia*, *Magnolia*, *Ranunculus*, and *Pinus*.

15. Give the characters which distinguish—

Anonaceæ	from	Magnoliaceæ
Santalaceæ	"	Loranthaceæ
Leguminosæ	"	Rosaceæ
Scrophulariaceæ	"	Solanaceæ
Menispermaceæ	"	Berberidaceæ
Orobanchaceæ	"	Bignoniaceæ
Bignoniaceæ	"	Scrophulariaceæ.

*D. A. Gray*

16. The plants numbered 1 to 6 are different species of one genus. Give, in Latin, a character of the genus, and of each species.

*One of plants. Nicotiana glauca*  
*Nicotiana glauca*  
*Nicotiana glauca*  
*Plumbago*

N. B. WARD.



on these voyages of discovery. I have had the longest  
land journey of any of the explorers - having been  
upwards of 80 days upon one occasion for the  
first 50 of which he neither took off his clothes  
nor washed his face - He might have justly  
have exclaimed with sinners - 'I had my belly full  
of travelling' - Ann begs me to thank M<sup>rs</sup> Fay  
for her kind kind letter - which she will soon  
respond to - The L. Sal. subs on much after  
its old sleepy manner - The Microscopist is  
daily increasing in strength and the truths  
of the Linnæan page - *Primis* in particular  
*Cestodes* *ovinis* in particular - begins to be duly  
appreciated - I have coming to dine with me this  
day one of our best microsc.: - who has paid  
great attention to the structure of tumours affect  
the animal frame - and it is marvellous how  
much light has been thrown upon the nature of  
these tumours by the microscope - and the effort  
and this instrument has rendered to the prac-  
tical Surgeon - but it is the same throughout the  
whole domain of nature - normal & abnormal -

I must now conclude - wishing that I could  
be with you & M<sup>rs</sup> Fay - At the Falls of Niagara  
or anywhere else I wish the true appears -  
by the little kind regards to those friends whom  
we have the pleasure of knowing - Believe me  
Ever Yours affect. N. D. Ward

My dear Gray

Captain. Rise  
1. April. 1852.

I might say in this to have acknowledged  
the receipt of your kind letter - but the fact  
is that I have been very unwell for more than  
two months with chronic Erythema (the result  
of continued exposure to our boreful east winds)  
which has indisposed me for any exertion - My  
eldest son too has been very ill with pneumonia  
but - thank God - we are now both recovering  
and fully disposed to enjoy with grateful hearts  
the blessings of returning spring. About three  
weeks since I went with Stephen to Hastings,  
and by getting into the sheltered parts of the  
country - derived no small benefit - both bodily  
and mental from the contemplation of Nature in  
one of her loveliest places - The *Malva* *europæa*  
was in full flower & of gigantic size - here I heard  
the height often or twelve feet - the ground  
 carpeted by *Nasturtium* - *Primrose* - *Thymus* &  
*Chrysanthemum* - and the *Chrysosplenium* &  
humble *Adonis* *pinnatifida* - & a great many of  
a countless host of lovely *Impatiens* & other *Cryptogam*  
micro plants. - I have just been laying out £30



in making some extensive alterations in my  
garden-spring. for the sake of providing sui-  
table habitats for ferns & for American plants.  
I have a labae (is it not a little one?) for  
apothecae - bordered with mountain!!! & bog!!!  
which latter were recent. planted with a brace  
100 species & varieties of Ericaceae - chiefly  
natives of N. America - I can accommodate at  
least 500 species, and can give them every possible  
allowance, <sup>modification</sup> of sun & water to suit their respective  
wants. - I need not say - how pleased I should  
be to receive one of your smaller woods & other  
plants - Any thing that grows near you would  
be most acceptable - not only for their own sake  
but for the sake of those dear friends - who - I  
hope & we all hope - will not make it long before  
they favour us with another visit. I have  
not yet thanked you for the *Asp. marginata* &  
*acrostichoides* - of each of which I recd. a couple  
of roots from W. Smith and recd. *Linnaea borealis*.  
Do you ever get the ripe seeds of *Nelumbium*  
*luteum*? I think I once grow that & other  
aquatics - as I can give any depth of water  
from one inch to three feet. I have already  
*Nymphaea* *Galea* - *Callitriche* *splendens* - *Epimedium* *longum*  
*Lili* in my bags - and I think I could manage  
*Saxifraga* some others if I had them.

With Mr. L. you will be very glad to hear that  
Mr. Ward has been very comfortable during the last  
two months - having been almost entirely free from  
rheumatism or other disagreeable symptoms. - I wish  
it were possible for us to pay him a visit - as I  
imagine such a trip would be of most beneficial  
benefit to us - but this is - unfortunately - a thing  
only to be talked of. - I hope that you all in  
America are as pleased as I am with the  
Nereis B. H. as I am - I have had great pleasure  
in a copy and neatness of his figures would give  
tempt me to visit your coast for their sake -  
I have written & send that he has another new  
station for *Dichomanes* where it is growing in  
great profusion - I trust you have not of this time  
in America - I am about getting up a small  
case for Capt. W. C. Entoch - Commr. of the Intrepid  
one of the ships about to proceed to the N. Pole  
in search of Franklin. I mean to enclose a Daisy  
rose - which I expect will be the first that ever  
flowered in the Arctic regions - Capt. W. C. is an  
enthusiastic young man - but not very sanguine in  
his expectations of meeting with Sir John or his  
party. He barely thinks it possible - they may  
meet with some of the remains of the party - Every  
thing which science & accumulated experience can  
suggest for the furtherance of the objects they have  
in view - will be adopted & so does Capt. Entoch  
to solve the great question. Sufficient has been twice

of some most interesting additions to  
collections from my friend Christy - who  
has been for the last two or three months  
in Norway. He enclosed me in a letter  
spec of the beautiful *Cirrhopteris montana*  
One of the *Woodias* & wrote me that he  
was surrounded by most lovely vegetation  
& would send me a box full of *Primulas*  
*ferns* &c. &c. You would I am sure be  
delighted to see what I have already  
got together - about 120 species *Strawberries*  
*hardy Ericas* - including eight of Dr.  
Hooker's *Rhodod.* which are very eminent  
nearer than appears me <sup>are</sup> quite hardy - as  
he sowed them <sup>thus</sup> in rows - parallel  
with rows of the common kinds & he  
tells me that the latter suffered more  
from the frosts than the *Scandinavian* ones.

I have just recd. a fine collection of living  
*Madia* forms from one of our country women, a  
Miss Gibbs of (I believe) Foston. Miss Gibbs went  
to Madeira to see her sister & Mr. Wright who  
has just died on her return to Southampton  
Harvey - I hope this Miss Gibbs & a Miss  
Hawthorn are just off to Switzerland & it is just  
possible that I may go to Chamouni & see  
the Col de. My wife and daughters send their  
love to Mr. Gray & with my kindest regards  
believe me ever yours affectly V. D. Ward

My dear Gray

Apthecaries  
Hall 11. Aug 10 52.

Here I am engaged for the  
day in my annual examination for the  
Botanical prizes - I have enclosed you  
one of the papers. - I ought - however  
first to have thanked you for your  
valuable work. I know not how to  
thank you - or to make you any return  
for your continued acts of kindness - but  
must console myself with the idea  
that it is more blessed to give than to  
receive. I am happy to tell you that  
my dear wife has suffered much less  
for the last six months from her painful  
affliction than usual, and I do hope  
that it may leave her altogether. The  
rest of my family are all quite well.  
You will be pleased to hear that Stephen  
has recently been elected one of the Court  
of Examiners to the Apoth. Comp. for the  
granting of Diplomas - This is a most  
honourable position for a young man -



as it places him at once in the highest  
rank of the profession - as the examinations  
of our worshipping Conf are confessedly  
the most stringent of any the students  
have to undergo. It is in fact - ~~well~~  
well understood & acknowledged - that all  
the great improvements in the curriculum  
of the med. student originated here -  
I am now busy with the second edition  
of my book, which is in the press. If  
I had the pen of a ready writer - I need  
make it most interesting, as the subject  
matter is second to none. I have however  
done my best - and I am vain enough to  
think that you will consider it an  
improvement on the last. I will send  
you & Mr. Gray a copy as soon as it is  
out. One of the illustrations will I am  
sure please you - I came by it in a curious  
way. Some years ago I bought a lot of  
books at a sale - for the sake of one which  
I wanted. I did not look at some of the  
others for a consideration afterwards - when  
on perusing one of them - a list of the  
plants of some part of Germany by Schöten

I was struck by the vignette in the title  
page - representing our Saviour dis-  
cussing his disciples on the mount  
& of course the lilies of the field occu-  
pying a prominent position. My  
friend Cooke has introduced my  
suggestion - the date - which I think  
adds much to the beauty of the picture.  
Believe me I mentioned to you in my last  
the alteration I had made in my garden.  
The miniature lake is a source of great  
pleasure to us all - as independently of  
the attraction of the water lilies and other  
aquatics - we are never wearied in  
watching the habits and I might say  
 gambols of the water insects - the Dytiscids  
at the bottom hunting after its prey  
the water bugs - skimming along the  
surface of the water - hardly causing any  
more disturbance than if they were on  
platter glass - & the eggheads - spouting  
like boys on a half holiday - with  
ever and anon - the Libellula grandis  
gliding to and fro like the preceding  
lady of the waters. I am in daily expectation



copy of the 2<sup>d</sup> edition of my little work which  
I am vain enough to think you will consider  
an improvement on the first. You will not  
now have to send to Dublin for the Irishman  
as, as Sir W. H. tells me it has been found  
in U. Alabama. You will greatly oblige me  
by criticizing my book most freely as I  
should like to correct errors - should it  
chance to reach a third edition. You  
will <sup>find</sup> many errors - independ. of those which  
I have corrected - as the work was unfor-  
tunately printed during my absence on the  
continent. The heading of the first chapter  
Enid. Alia regin. was taken from a good book  
by Scholler - with the intro. of the two  
dates by E. W. C. - - - - - Thomas Eas

We shall all be wishing for you & Mr. Grafton  
morrow. Wright's Children as usual are with  
us - and a Daughter of my friend Mallard &  
two of my nieces are to be in a day or two  
more. I am most happy to be as much  
better and thank God - quite able to enjoy  
with the young ones the festivities of the  
season. I need not say that we shall not  
forget our friends on the other side of the water  
and that we are all for many many  
returning seasons of health & happiness to <sup>us</sup> ~~us~~  
ourselves. Believe me Ever Yours a faithful friend  
Thomas Eas

My dear Gray 16 Dec. 1852.  
Since I last wrote you - I have  
been illustrating the truth of a word of opinion  
that no evil can happen to us in this world  
without some compensating good. - In a spasmo-  
dic cough which has kept the house of  
much annoyance to me for several months -  
rarely at the same time the cause of a enjoy-  
ment of two or three most delightful specimens  
which <sup>find</sup> it - Indeed I have had  
to have a visit to the - the last of these excursions  
the most pleasant and profitable of all - were  
to the Rhine - Switzerland - Milan and Venice.  
During my sojourn in Switzerland the weather  
was most propitious, and I shall never  
forget the first good view I had of the snow-  
clad mountains in an early morning ride  
from Core to Chiavenna over the Pluggen  
pass. - At 5. am I was first starting all was in  
mist - usually the early rays of the sun  
highlighted the far distant snow clad peaks  
in the west reminding me of a story in an  
ancient history of the inhabitants of a certain  
country who had determined to elect for their  
ruler him amongst the candidates who first  
beheld the rays of the rising sun - Alas - but  
the one turned towards the east - the other one

directed his attention to the west - and  
the hold - as I did - the early rain the  
mount. top. I need not dilate upon  
the beauties of the scenery as you & Mr. Gray  
had far more length of opportunity to  
enjoy them - than I had. - One thing  
however struck me forcibly viz - the increas-  
ing development of plants with the increas-  
ing height as I journeyed southward - Thus  
the Oleander - a bush of 3 or 4 ft. high at  
San Rafael - in the garden of the American  
Convent at Venice becomes a tree 15 or 20  
ft. high - loaded with thousands of flowers  
and in the garden of Prof. Prati - at the  
base of the Salice mount. at Genova - I saw  
a single pumpkin plant - bearing 14 fruit  
each weighing 50 pounds. Another point  
which much interested me was - the effect  
of light upon the mind, as shown most  
clearly in the difference which exists  
between the Roman Catholic & Protestant  
customs of Switzerland. - In Venice - too -  
there cannot be a greater contrast than  
between the Capuchin & Benedictine monks  
and those belonging to the American  
Convent - the former sunk in the deepest  
night of ignorance - the latter constantly  
engaged with their printing press in the

dissemination of useful knowledge. - A more  
courteous and intellectual set of men  
are now hard to be found. - Another subject  
and one well worthy the attention of a painter  
like Locatelli - would be the idle and the  
industrious population of various countries  
indeed of a religious differences - I visited  
a very striking way to Venice  
in the coach - pictures of the people who  
supply Venice with water - and the lady who  
half-naked witches - who lie sprawling  
about at the doors of the Churches & public  
buildings - living upon the scanty pittances  
they obtain by begging. - I did not obtain  
many plants - but could not gather deep  
up some Saxifages I was led to for my  
garden - I was much glad to find that  
various plants grow with me as well  
as in their native spots - I have by  
this to thank you for your kind promise  
of sending me some Swiss N. Am. plants, which  
I shall take every possible care of for the sake  
of the donor. - I have moreover to express  
my obligations to you for the second part  
of the Veices of Dr. Bartholin - to whom I  
have written a letter of thanks - and to whom  
I shall send a few plants - under cover to  
you from Wiley Putnam and Cheever -



inexhaustible variety I hear of  
of botanical records. I have not much to say  
We shall have a change in the Sen. Sec.  
in the retirement of Brown as Pres. & the  
election of our friend Thos. Rice, who will  
I hope infuse a little of his vigour into  
our proceedings. Taylor is as you have  
learned how he can't & I believe will in  
a few days resign. It is not yet settled who  
is to be the new Secretary. I have talked  
(as I hear from N. Henshaw) of visiting England  
but nothing is yet fixed. As regards  
the talk of appointing a curator to the Fielding  
Herbarium, who will probably give lectures,  
as it is at least intended to give the student  
at the Universities the opportunity of becoming  
acquainted with the natural history - a  
reformation which will contribute to the  
advantage of all concerned. Nothing respects  
to home news. I am most happy to say that  
Mrs. Ward is much freer from her painful  
attacks than usual and that all the rest  
of her family are in the enjoyment of good  
health. My son Nath. the Surgeon has been  
called into see the Chancellor of that Exchequer.

We all unite in kind regards & best wishes  
to Mr. Gray & yourself & I believe me ever  
Your affec<sup>t</sup>. friend N. D. Ward

My dear Gray

Camden Place  
11. Mar: 1853.

I thank that my last letter  
to you was written after a severe  
attack of Pneumonia - from which  
I thank God I have now quite recovered  
but am kept at home at present &  
shall be during the continuance of  
the winter weather. I am however, in  
good form being very much relieved, as it  
gives me time to look over, arrange  
and arrange my collection of plants -  
some of which comes under my eye  
but is attended with some pleasurable  
remembrance of kind friends - and of  
most scenery, for which man - ought to  
solidly dwell. I have just now  
dispatched a packet of plants for D:



Lathrole<sup>+</sup> under cover to you - I have  
not been able to send him any novelties  
in his yet genus - Carex - as some years  
ago - I gave them all (as in duty bound)  
to Dr. Donk. - I have, however, sent  
him many things which I hope will  
prove acceptable, together with a copy  
of the new ed. of my little book - with  
which I hope you will be pleased, as  
I think it is an improvement on the first.

One of my little books - 'Considerate de  
agri' - I stole from the Flora Barbey  
of Scholler, but got W. Cobbe to  
add the dates - My motto is a de-  
scription of the climate of Paradise  
E. Guerserus Polivius - If I can I think  
a writer who flourished about a century  
& half ago - May I trouble you to  
forward when you have opportunity  
the copies to Prof. Bailey N. Y. and  
to W. S. Sullivan Esq. Columbus - Ohio  
through whom I am indebted (through you)  
for some of the first paper in my collection  
Is he not making too many species?

I have sent you a couple of spectra copies  
to give to my one of my friends Dr. W. S.  
send you more if you require them.

My garden & trees are beginning to get  
full of fruit to the botanist - Thanks to  
you and to other friends - My friend Chick  
was in Nevada last year and brought home  
many interesting plants from there in a living  
state amongst them - the Cistaceae, montanae  
C. cretacea the Woodsi. etc. and a great  
number of dried sp. from the Doak field.

I have been popularising a portion of my  
Herbarium. s. e. filling sheets of paper with  
alpine plants arranged acc. to their eleva-  
tion - Common with the level of the plains  
ascending to that above the peaks  
of the red rocks.

Ullmann's nihil est, nisi non habitabile fuisse  
you may think this foolish - but I have  
been lately studying Geology and learning to  
appreciate the value of those physical differ-  
ences, which are indelibly impressed upon ve-  
getation - At all events - I beg you if I can  
to persuade anyone to relax in their pursuit  
of the coarsest of falsities of this world & give  
their contemplation of Nature rather over

Miss Gibbs of Boston. I should have happened  
to know her, tell her how much she has  
contributed to my happiness - I have sent her  
a copy of my book - through her friend Mr.  
Goddard. I. Hooker has just told me that  
Hancey has made up his mind to go to  
Switzerland, <sup>leaving</sup> leaving for the autumn. How  
I should like to accompany him - Mr.  
Ward continues to improve & I hope  
will be enabled to have a run in the  
country in about a month's time. I think  
we shall pay a visit to one of our favourite  
chalk districts. I revel amongst *Oculus*  
*fusca* - *Ophrys musifera* &c. There is one  
wood at Cobham which cont. in and on  
the borders of species of *Orchidea*. My  
daughters are all well - so are my sons.  
All write in kindest regards to yourself  
and Mr. Gray - hoping that you will  
soon publish another print &c.

Ever your affect. friend  
N. B. Ward.

Captham Rise  
20 Mar. 1853.

My dear Gray  
I cannot tell you how delighted  
I was at the receipt of your last letter, cont.  
the exquisite *L. Delavayi*. It arrived, too,  
on a red letter day - i.e. the birth day of  
my daughter Maria - the 15. inst. - and of  
course, I have given her a portion of the  
specimen... You will not <sup>have</sup> received my little  
book so soon as you expected - as the packet  
was only sent to the row a few days back.  
The delay arose in consequence of the fire  
occupied in making up the packet for  
D. Lamb. I have not - like Hooker -  
a great store of duplicates, and it therefore  
takes up some time in selecting individ. spec.  
Most however that D. L. will be pleased  
as I have amongst other things sent him  
nearly 30 of our *B. Alpe*. I have to thank  
you much for the *Parasitica* &c. the  
first part of which I recd. last year &  
for which I ought long ago to have  
thanked you. I had done so in imagination.



When you have time you would oblige me  
greatly by giving me an idea of the  
vegetation of the highest points of your  
mountains how far it resembles  
or differs from that of the Alps & Andes.  
Englewood - It is a subject to me, just  
now of great interest - inasmuch as I  
wish to demonstrate that *Scand. can.*  
tribute (in no <sup>great degree</sup> <sup>of vegetation</sup> <sup>in</sup> <sup>mean degree</sup>) to render  
the ascent of Mount Blanc & other high  
mountains - I wish it were in my power  
to accept Mr. Gray's kind invitation to run  
over & pay you a visit - as I think I am  
affiliated with your plants to render  
(in a botanical point of view) such a visit  
highly pleasurable. It is nothing of the  
delight I should have in your beautiful  
country with such companions as Mr. Gray  
& yourself - but I fear it cannot be.

What think you of *Dillandia agnoscens*  
being imported into this country for the pur-  
pose of stuffing *Colletes* & *Pileolaria*? A friend  
of mine had just recd. a bale of it for  
that purpose & he brought the plants to me  
to know what kind of stuff it was -  
I will give you a spec. to know whether I am

correct in so naming it. The cloud cases  
are progressing - or going ahead in a way  
which would be most gratifying to me, could  
I spare a little more time I mean - One  
of our rich Ladies here is about to give  
fifty cases to a fancy fair for one of the  
Solidier - and has called upon me to assist  
her in her charitable views - which I am  
most willing to do as far as lies in my  
power. - It ship load of ferns would  
hardly suffice for the present demand.  
Sir W. H. writes me that he is over-  
whelmed with applications. - I have now  
the double *W. L. spinosa* - the *P. marginata*  
& *Helvetia* in full flower & two or three other  
alpine species coming on - I mean two rare  
ferns brought from Norway last year *Cystopteris*  
*montana* - *Woodsia albertina* (rare as yours?)  
*W. hyperborea* - *Cystopteris flaccida* & one or  
two others - coming up most beautifully - The  
*Dicksonia antarctica* in the greenhouse has run  
up nine new fronds - which have grown close  
up to the top in a week. - I have for a number  
of the *Madonia* ferns - grow most beautifully  
brought me by one of your neighbours - a



love to render it a profitable under-  
taking, as they have already expended  
the capital sum subscribed - £500,000 - & have  
borrowed half as much more. A very  
old friend & mine - a Lady of the Novatian  
persuasion - is about to visit America  
on business can I believe with the  
church to which she belongs - She is a  
very estimable person - but almost too  
old - being near 70 - for such an expedition.  
Should she visit Boston - I shall take the  
liberty of introducing her to your kind no-  
tice. I have not much news for you.

I have not been able to attend a single  
scientific meeting the whole winter -

I am most thankful to say - that all the  
rest of my family are quite well. Stephen  
is about to rejoin the city -

All unite in kindest regards and best  
wishes to yourself and Dr Gray and

Believe me Ever to be

My dear Mr. Gray

Yours most sincerely  
N. B. Ward

My dear Mr. Gray in Clapham Place  
2 May 1853.

About once a month I have a  
general clearing out of my writing desk  
and you may imagine my consternation  
when I found the accompanying letter  
from Ann, which was to have been  
forwarded with a post to Dr. Gray, and  
which I imagined had been enclosed.

The fault - somehow or other rests  
most certainly in the post and I hope to  
have your forgiveness. Ann is at  
present staying with her young friends  
in Yorkshire - her sisters are about  
to be married. Mrs. Ward has upon the  
whole suffered less this winter from  
rheumatism than usual and has most  
thoroughly enjoyed in the beauties  
of this heavenly season. - I have rarely

see the country in more lovely guise than  
at present. My appreciation of its  
beauties is now subt. enhanced by my fore-  
sight of its home: but there is - I believe  
scarcely a portion of the temperate part  
of the earth where there is such variety  
of tint & form in the vegetation as in  
my immediate neighborhood - the pleasure  
ground of our merchant princes being  
decorated with floral treasures from all  
parts of the world. - Our common too  
are now in all their glory with the furs.

Karac arrived in London I believe  
to day - to make preparation for his  
approaching expedition. Were I a single  
man - how gladly would I have accompa-  
nied him. D. Gray will be pleased to hear,  
although I believe he is not personally  
acquainted with him, that the indefa-  
tigable Indian Botanist D. Wright has  
just arrived with his wife & child in

good health. Although he has been  
working all his life at Botany - his  
real labours may be said to be only com-  
mencing, as he has to arrange and deter-  
mine his extensive collections - some tons  
of which are following him on ship board.

He tells me that he estimates his number  
of species at somewhere about 6000 -  
D. Gray's name will of course be included  
amongst those who will have a shelf  
here - I am about to erect - or rather  
to construct a habitat for moisture  
loving ferns - such as Dichomanes &  
Lycopodium and I think I now know  
enough of them to be able to supply them  
worth the letter. I have a number  
of most interesting ferns now thriving with  
me and not a few of lovely alpine plants  
which I collected last year in Switzerland.  
I am told that the Crystal Palace will  
at once be opened next year. I feel  
much fear that there is too much exposure  
of art science and consequently too little



in very good spirit but I fear he has cast  
with much work for himself in preparing  
sets of Alge for subscribers. - It is no joke  
requiring 50 specimens of each species & I wrote  
me that his luggage weighed 50 cwt. - I was told  
to be carried across the desert on the backs of  
ten camels. - When I reached home I found  
my garden & greenhouse a perfect wilderness yet  
beautiful & exceedingly with the fine flowers of  
Aspidochelone - Out of the various, numerous Eucalyptus  
trees - The four or five were looking most  
thriving. - By the bye I hope you have  
not forgotten your promise of sending me  
another batch of the natives of your woods.  
I have a new house for them - where I think  
they will be quite at home. I am very  
happy to tell you that Mr. Ward is better  
than at the rest of your family, he is  
excellent health. - Charlotte & Maria have  
returned full of the wonders they have seen  
in Ireland & have obtained moreover a  
little insight <sup>into</sup> and great love for the main  
acculturation of our time. We all write  
on kind regards & best wishes to Mr. Gray  
yourself & believe me ever  
your affectionate friend  
N. B. Ward

My dear Gray

Captham Place  
27 Aug 1853.

I have just returned from a  
very pleasant visit to Ireland - I spent  
6 weeks in company with Charlotte & Maria  
We paid a visit of a fortnight to our  
friend Harvey, and enjoyed much his  
society - and the wonders of the Dublin  
Exhibition, which although much smaller  
than ours of Hyde Park yet contains many  
very many objects of great interest - I have  
with reference to illustration of the past  
development of Ireland, with bright  
glimpses of its future prospects. Having  
some years ago - gone over 500 miles of Irish  
ground with Harvey - I was in some measure  
enabled to appreciate the changes which  
have taken place since then and it was  
rather of great gratification to me to see  
the improved & improving condition of the country.  
Social causes are now contriving to effect a  
change for the better - the conversion from  
Roman Catholicism - the sale of encumbered  
estates - the facilities of access to all parts of  
Ireland & the exhibition - which has  
called forth the dormant energies of the Irish



the diminished population - I don't  
think that island can now retrograde. - We  
visited the Giant's Causeway and the lakes of  
Killarney where I travelled amidst Dickson's  
& H. P. H. H. H. - In the domain of the  
the rocks & stones & shrubs of the trees are  
interlarded with the fairy fern - which must have  
been growing there for ages. Such a wild & beau-  
tiful to the eye is a revelation is saved to be met  
with anywhere else, justifying the pithy eulogium  
of the poet janitor of the Abbey - "that many  
men might make a Newvalley, but God only  
could make a Buncrack." Were you to see this  
little paradise - I fear it would put you out  
of conceit with your fern case - as here  
limestone & shale is crated with *Sphenophyllum*.  
We wound up our journey by a week's stay at  
Hampstead & a month's stay in Jersey where we  
enjoyed a week at two - a lot of leisure.  
I'll give you a note at Dublin I wrote from  
hence to my friend Wright whose answer I have  
received. Now for D. A. Gray, I am delighted  
with your extract from his letter, and will be  
more than glad to meet his wishes to the  
utmost extent in my power and I believe  
can meet them to the extent wished for inas-  
much as the unsold copies of my *Comes* are  
all your & you know a man may do what he

likes with his own. So - as soon as I get  
home my spare copies which should be  
very soon now he shall have a complete set  
of the *Comes* & with them hopes & wishes that  
they may prove a useful addition to his library.  
As regards the good pro quo I leave that  
to his own discretion merely mentioning that I am  
as so fortunate as to possess any of his works  
except the one you gave me viz. 1<sup>st</sup> decade  
of the *Chlois*. In writing you may mention  
that were I properly settled down I felt quite  
at home. I should have written to him myself  
in reply to your extract but the fact is I am  
still like a fish out of water, have not yet  
got accustomed to my new chair & table &  
cannot reconcile myself to a greater amount  
of sedentary life than I find quite unavoidable.  
So much for D. W. You must of course obtain  
a set of his duplicates when he commences  
their distribution which cannot be for a  
considerable time as they are not yet arrived  
in Ireland. And upon my dear friend say  
everything that is kind & grateful to Mr.  
Gray for her most friendly invitation to my daughter  
which I regret (so do they) that circumstances  
will not allow us to avail ourselves of  
at present. - She has been from home for some  
time but I believe she wrote to you by  
the last post. - Have left us on the 14<sup>th</sup>.

My dear Gray

Cambridge, Chelsea  
24 Sep 1853

I have just heard from Ann  
of your intended visit to London & of your  
expected departure on Saturday next to  
London. I must stop in this neighbour-  
hood for three or four days longer to be  
present at the expected marriage of  
a friend of mine, but should you be  
compelled to leave England earlier, I  
would meet you at Liverpool or else  
in London, should you have appointed - as I  
should be much obliged for you to do so  
without requiring you. If however  
you are compelled to postpone your  
departure - I shall then  
have the pleasure of seeing you at Cap-  
tain - as I shall be at home - I do  
on Saturday even? Pray give me a

here addressed to

The Rev. N. Gilman

The Grammar School -

Manchester

where I shall be from Wednesday next  
to Friday morning.

Dear Mr. Dear Gray

Yours affectionately

N. B. Ward



and Hugh is progressing with his travels  
which are now ready for the press. I  
with his collections. I intend (D.V.) to  
celebrate Lewis's birthday by collecting together  
the few of his friends & admirers - in  
Hobbs - Thomas - Forbes - Van Vorst - Wallace  
or two others - Would you care join us.

Mrs. Ward has written to Mr. Gray & has told  
her all the family matters. I regret to  
say that I cannot give a good account  
of Mr. Ward - She has been suffering  
greatly from debility & nervous irritation  
produced from want of sleep - I hope  
however to be able in a next to give  
you a better account - as she has had  
some sound sleep last night - almost  
for the first time for this fortnight -  
All the rest of the family & all  
write in kind regards & best wishes  
to you & Mr. Gray & believe me

Ever yours affectly

N. B. Ward

My dear Gray      Lapham Dec  
26. Jan 1854  
Your long expected care  
arrived at the London docks eighteen  
days ago - but did not reach me until  
last week owing to its having been  
placed in the bottom of the hold - covered  
with an immense quantity of oil - & the  
which took a long while in discharging  
by lighter loads at a time. - Thanks  
however to the excellent way in which  
they were packed - very few of the plants  
sustained any injury. I cannot tell you  
how very much obliged I am to you for  
them. I shall have you now always before  
me, although I did not require their  
presence to keep you & Mr. Gray in  
affectionate remembrance. - I had scarcely  
any of them before - & may there fore  
imagine what a grand addition you have  
made to my collection - rich as it was  
previously - I am greatly pleased with the  
variety of the Carices - the foliage of Sagittaria  
Arifolia - Cyperus & the like - the two B.  
muandas were particularly acceptable

You have of course heard of Harvey  
Lacepede in Sullivan Bay - Ceylon. When we  
consider that there were only five or six  
species of reticulate Alga known, the dis-  
covery of his new species is something  
remarkable. They appear to have escaped  
Harvey for all his previous disappointments.  
He writes of course finding *Tharex* specifically  
on the shores of New Holland - and I most  
vividly hope he may find one or two more.  
A new species of *Hemitrema* (the *Natalis* genus)  
would be very acceptable. From what Harvey  
says of Ceylon it appears that notwithstanding  
the abundance of vegetation on the shores there  
are immense tracts inland with a wretched  
poor soil - covered with an equally poor &  
inconspicuous flora, so that upon the whole  
the natives of temp. zones might not much  
to regret the absence of *Dorcas* - *Palms*  
- *Senecio* - *the more esp. of mosquitoes* - *the*  
*vegetation* - *of hand* - *what* - *together*. - Our  
friend seems to have suffered much from  
the bites of these venomous insects - as he  
says in his letter that his forehead is like  
a forest of *Andrea* - *radula* in full fruit.  
He is enjoying his ship at Gravelly  
Lodge in - *Heads* - but I think he has

made a mistake in going so far out of  
reach of all the botanical & the  
large collections of plants & study of which  
must be necessary for the elaboration of  
his own extensive Herbarium. When I last  
saw Mr. W. she told me that his plants were  
in good preservation - but I hope to tell  
you more about them shortly - go I expect to  
be able to pay him a visit for a few days  
very soon. - Stephen is about to lecture  
at the Royal Institution on the closed cases.  
In this lecture his endeavor will be pri-  
marily directed to the future application of the  
principles to animals and man. He will  
at the same time point out the absurdity of  
Sir Joseph Banks's plan of planting the inte-  
rior of the Crystal Palace with the prize  
plants - as nothing can be more certain  
than the destruction of the plants - if not  
sanctioned by the warm moist atmosphere  
essential to their very existence & if they  
have this - then the rocks up at and the  
vicinity must suffer - What Sir J. ought  
to do - would be to give living pictures of  
nature in various regions - in closed cases!!  
This might surely be effected & would be very  
improving. - Dr. L. L. L. is now very well again



My dear Gray.

in Clapham Drive 20. Dec. 1852

I need not say how delighted I was at receiving tidings from after so long a silence. Your most welcome letter arrived just by the way, and I am expecting a letter from me at Abnash as - at this festive season, next to the enjoyment of the society of our family, the most pleasant is that of corresponding with our distant friends, amongst whom none are more dearly recollected than yourself and Mr. Gray. I trust we may yet spend another Christmas together. I thank you much for your expected box of ferns & plants. You cannot imagine how greatly your last contribution added to the beauty & interest of my books, & accessories, as they did - with the numerous species & varieties of *Equisetum* the whole forming a picture - which was beautiful exceedingly. I have written to Mrs. Do Hunter to inform her of your contribution to her Society, and will take care that she has a complete set of all on read. This is me - whom it is a privilege to receive in any way. I shall not readily forget her kind attention to me and mine in the past year in Dublin. I am very glad to hear that your *Diachasma* is succeeding so well. I have dedicated one of the cases in my garden to you which is full of American productions - and another to I have in which I have imitated to the very letter - the natural conditions existing at Killarney with respect to a mount of light - heat & air in which the water is continually trickling down the rock through a perforated lattice peristyle tube. In this the *Diachasma* & *Thymus sylvestris* are flourishing. The case is of tolerable dimensions about 6 feet square. I already inform me of the most attractive features of the place. I am quite certain that the time will come when no garden will be considered complete without one or more closed cases - not to supersede the ordinary modes of cultivation but in addition to them, as there are numbers of plants which absolutely stand in need of them. I think I mentioned in a past that D. du Roi of Leyden told me that he had introduced by means of the cases - the *Cinchona* from the Peruvian forests into the plantations of Java - a fact of some moment with so valuable a plant.

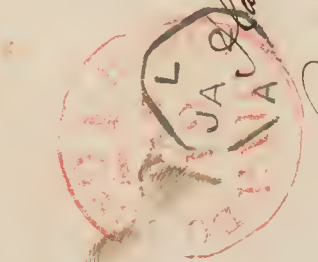


I am now Master of the Society of Apothecaries and intend to give in  
our Hall, two microscopic lectures - to take place on the first Wedn<sup>d</sup>  
in March & the second Wedn in April. I mention the days to you in  
case you should have any friend or countryman in London at that time,  
who may be interested in histological science - as I shall use my utmost  
exertions to make the meetings interesting & amongst other matters I  
have in view - it is my intention to arrange the objects exhibited as far  
as possible, taking Duche's Lectures as the base of my arrangement.  
We have plenty of room at the Hall so do not be afraid of introducing to  
me any number of friends you like. - To give you some idea of the  
extent of microsc: research in the present day - Duche has just had  
constructed for the histological room in the College of Surgeons, two Cabinets  
for a systematic collection of objects - each capable of holding twenty nine  
thousand specimens - One of these cabinets is already nearly full. Amongst  
other things that Duche is paying especial attention to - is the structure of  
coal - and he would feel particularly obliged to you if you could not gratefully  
acknowledge the receipt of any specimens of American coal, if you  
be able to send. - I have just sent to Timbiers a few copies of a lecture  
delivered by you at the Royal Institution in March. I thought you might  
wish to have them for distribution as they contain a compendious acc<sup>t</sup> of the  
cases then applications - I have to thank you for your little memoirs -  
I am sure will afford me as good a wage as much delight & instruction.

I have just rec<sup>d</sup> a letter from Mr. Oodhewer - part of which says for your  
enlightenment William has made a great collection of Algae in W. Australia  
Cott at Albany and the Swan river, several new spec. of which he has sent  
a full & true acc<sup>t</sup> to the L. S. Academy, which will be printed in their pro-  
ceedings. I expect he is now in Red Land, where he means to stay most of the  
winter - from there he goes back to Melbourne, thence to Sydney & N. Zealand  
to the Sandwich Islands - San Francisco & home via Panama & N. America.  
This will add another year to his absence, which to me is already long enough  
but he seems to enjoy such good health & to take such pleasure in all he sees  
& collects that none can say much against it. - His address is - care  
of William Robinson - 11. Stephen St. Melbourne - S. Australia. - I have just rec<sup>d</sup>  
a letter from Harvey for the last 3 or 4 months - but I heard from another friend  
that he had been giving lectures on Algae at Melbourne. I am sure he is great  
helping - could he infuse a portion of his own disinterested love of science to such  
worthless fellows of mankind. - Our friend Dr. Thomson returns to India in the course  
of a month or six weeks. He will doubtless continue his botanical labors.



As I have not enough already to do - I have just been appointed one of the two  
 Treasurers of the Socy of Apothecaries - which involves the superintendence  
 and control of an establishment whose staff consists of 40 or 50 individuals  
 and whose business transactions during the present year exceed the extent of  
 £70,000 - part of this owing to our (I believe just) but very badly mismanaged  
 war in the Crimea - on board the Prince - there were medicines to the value of £4000.  
 If you could send us something from America - it would be welcome - We have orders  
 for 15,000 pounds weight - I cannot get anywhere more than 2 or 3,000  
 & get with all this deficiency - there was a letter in the Times of to day - stating that  
 voluntary contributions to the extent of several tons of lint - linen &c had been  
 waiting for above a month in a City Warehouse - the orders of the Admiralty  
 for its shipment &c side de ceteris. Altho this is a sad & piteous to be borne  
 But I must draw to a close - I wish I could be present at the lecture



Dr. J. S. Gray  
 Harvard University  
 Cambridge M. Boston  
 Massachusetts.

you tell me you were about to give. It is not so probable now that I shall  
 ever be able to leave England on so long a journey. My dear wife has been  
 suffering much from great pain & exhaustion for the last few months - but lately  
 all the unpleasant symptoms have subsided and I do not despair of her yet  
 enjoying a tolerable amount of comfort. My Daughters & Sons are - thank  
 God - happily well. I write with my hand in a hundred places & the best  
 wishes of this happy season to yourself & all. Gray & I believe me ever  
 And keep me to that. M. J. S. Gray  
 which she will answer shortly. Yours affectionately N. D. Ward



"Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow."



### FISSIDENS BRYOIDES.\*

"WHICHEVER way I turned, nothing appeared but danger and difficulty. I saw myself in the midst of  
 a vast wilderness, in the depth of the rainy season, naked and alone; surrounded by savage animals and  
 men still more savage. I was 500 miles from the nearest European settlement. All these circumstances  
 crowded at once upon my recollection, and I confess that my spirits began to fail me. I considered my  
 fate as certain, and that I had no alternative but to lie down and perish. The influence of religion,  
 however, aided and supported me. I reflected that no human prudence or foresight could possibly have  
 averted my present sufferings. I was indeed a stranger in a strange land, yet I was still under the  
 protecting eye of that Providence who has condescended to call Himself the stranger's friend. At this  
 moment—painful as my reflections were—the extraordinary beauty of a small moss in fructification  
 irresistibly caught my eye. I mention this to show from what trifling circumstances the mind will  
 sometimes derive consolation, for, though the whole plant was no longer than the top of one of my  
 fingers, I could not contemplate the delicate conformation of its roots, leaves, and capsules, without  
 admiration. Can that Being (thought I) who planted, watered, and brought to perfection, a thing which  
 appears of so small importance, look with unconcern upon the situation and sufferings of creatures formed  
 after his own image? Surely not. Reflections like these would not allow me to despair. I started up,  
 and disregarding both hunger and fatigue, travelled forwards, assured that relief was at hand, and I was  
 not disappointed."—Travels in Africa by Mungo Park.

\* We are indebted to Sir William J. Hooker for identifying the above Moss, as the one referred to by Mungo Park.



as there was in all its - long one of your  
plants - which has hitherto suffered in a way  
to grow in the Lycops. dendroideum  
a circular in the American quarter - full  
exposed to the blaze of the room & a sun  
without the slightest shelter. was perfectly  
filled with it. There must have been at  
least 60 or 70 stems - old & young - nine  
had most prob. perished owing to the want  
of a soft supply of so much. Now do it  
grow with it. Another short excursion  
to Knapp Hill N. Watery pleased me greatly  
At this place are nine acres of American  
plants - growing in a manner more than  
their native luxuriance & beauty. I know  
whether you saw them or how in England  
They are just as fine in their way - as the  
superior you saw at Bayport by Waterous  
Lake - likewise a large cold - up - since among  
which I noticed it one of the most beautiful  
You will be much pleased to hear that  
My dear Wife is better than she has been  
for 2 months - the neuralgic attacks are few  
far between & there is a reasonable hope  
that she may lose them altogether - She  
at times allows me to wish her to go  
yourself & to be alone - ever affectionately  
Wm. Wood

My dear Gray 14 Clapham Ave  
29 Dec 1853  
I ought long ere this to have  
acknowledged the receipt of your most  
welcome care of plants & the high & flattering  
expectation - received two or three weeks  
ago, but my time had been so completely  
filled up by the preparations for my  
macro-microscopic papers - that I never  
find time for nothing else. Although the  
care was so long in reaching me - the  
of the plants had suffered none to the least  
so well packed - some of the bulbous  
had perished. My garden is now quite gay  
with the *Sagittaria* - *Scilla* - *Scilla* -  
all the plants are doing well - I wish you  
could have been present at the parties at  
the Hall. Nearly 500 persons were present -  
at the first and 700 at the second, including  
almost every man of science in London - Of  
microscopes I mustered about 100 - with an  
unlimited supply of objects - the majority of  
which were illustrated by the skilful drawing  
of the London Philosophers - amongst these the  
diagrams of St. John were particularly beautiful  
I stuffed - paper - W. Pickers brought his  
apparatus - which he for minute working - the



capabilities of which almost exceed belief  
When I told you that the words "Matthew  
Marshall Esq. Baron of England" were written  
in the hundred & five thousandth part of an inch  
of paper & in it he rather increased - but such  
is the fact. Characterized by Mr Marshall & Dr  
Jackson - the famed microscope. The  
objects were all arranged under the heads of  
vegetable and animal kingdoms - recent  
specimens mineral kingdom - and anatomical  
and pathological series with several  
tables for miscellanea. On the day before  
my last party. Had the pleasure of entertaining  
about 400 ladies with a number of young  
persons - who were highly gratified with the  
intellectual feast I had prepared for them  
as I had retained all the objects of interest  
exhibited the preceding year. I had a series of  
a dozen or more of the first microscopical  
in the microscopical world. I saw a letter  
from Dr. Jackson - White & Lecher. Over the  
entrance door of the Hall was the following  
large letter from Lincoln.

Dilemma ad adrem est. I am - sine quo Christo.  
This I might have sent to our War Office.  
In the case the following passage from Bede's  
"De magnis Longepetichermar" is taken.  
I need not say that I was much gratified at

the success of these parties, as all a friend  
replied around me & gave me the most cordial  
support. In addition to the microscopical  
I had a large collection of local plants & flowers  
from all quarters - books of natural history of  
all kinds some of the most valuable examples of plants  
graphical & a great number of fine specimens  
of ancient & modern pottery contributed by my  
friend "Christy". For many things that have  
all had enough to do. Independently of the  
official cards of invitation sent out by my  
dear Mr. Marshall - my daughters & I  
wrote between 7 & 800 letters, and it occupied  
so much time to run up the drawings left  
in the walls. It was not however trouble  
thrown away for more than one microscopical  
specimen thanked me for giving them such a  
broad view of the microscopical world  
as they had never before seen. During the  
last three months my time has been entirely  
occupied in the affairs of our Soc. in addition  
to my microscopical but I have not been able  
to leave home on any excursion & I much  
doubt whether I shall be able to do so this  
summer. I have not about 100 to see any  
thing remarkable. One I had sent to the  
grounds of one of our celebrated deceased  
Unitarianists - Mr. Maryatt pleased me much

of Germany. You know of course that he  
has been appointed Curator of the Museum  
with a salary of £400 p. ann. — The  
pleasure grounds at Kew are rapidly improv-  
ing under the guidance of Sir H. Lamb and will  
soon be remarkable for their rarities. — I saw  
amongst others — the *Cotonea chrysophylla*  
from California — a leaf of which I enclose.  
The *Wellingtonia* was thriving as were many  
other *Cupress* but I do not think the  
situation suitable for the majority of them  
as it is far too low & damp. — From the  
terraces last advice from Mr. Doehner  
I should not imagine you will see Clavay  
this Autumn as he was preparing to go to the  
Sandwich islands — when I should imagine  
he will find so much to interest him — that he  
could not be satisfied with a hurried visit.  
My daughter all begins to present their kind  
regards & her visits to Mr. Gray himself  
to believe me ever to be  
Yours affec<sup>t</sup> friend  
N. D. Ward  
I will write to Mr. Gray shortly

My dear Gray

Ms. Clapham Pine  
2 Aug. 1855

It is not often that I sit down  
to write to you with anything like worry or  
exhaustion of spirit — but I do so on the pre-  
sent occasion — fearing least you & Mr. Gray  
should imagine for the moment — that we  
do not sufficiently estimate, and endeavour  
to avail ourselves of your kind repeated  
invitations to visit you in Boston — The  
fact really is — that I cannot afford the  
expense — The love of nat<sup>l</sup> Science &  
the acquisition of wealth are — in a narrow  
view — incompatible — It does not pay to live  
out every day in the week — only at odd  
evening — without losing his patients  
but a loss of 10 days or a branch of nat<sup>l</sup>  
history is unpardonable — Do not think  
that I regret the election I have made, as  
all the riches in the world could not have  
afforded me a more of the gratification



I have derived from my excursion with  
science and its laws - when I look back  
on the microscopic series at Apoth Hall  
and think of the number of friends who  
collected in and re on those occasions - and  
whose exertions such instructive and  
magnificent display of God's Wisdom in  
Creation were witnessed - I cannot but feel  
that - though poor - I am growing rich?

Had I, however abundance of this world's  
goods - the very uncertain state of health of  
my dear Wife would preclude any long  
absence from home on the part of myself or  
Daughters. - About a month ago Mr. W.  
had a respite for 2 or 3 weeks from pain & was  
able to get into & enjoy our little garden  
when the setting in of continuous wet  
weather reproduced her neuralgic attacks &  
again frustrated her. She is just now  
thank God again improving - but I fear  
we must not expect any very material  
change for the better. Would you were here  
my garden has continued to improve in interest

and begins really to assume a very wild &  
natural appearance. You will be glad to  
hear that most of our plants have thriven  
well: amongst them nearly all the ferns -  
the *Saxifraga* - *Jaegeria* - *Perilone* and  
*Selago* - the latter being quite new to all  
the Botanists - In my large fern house now  
or eight Jersey Lichens are making themselves  
very happy - and add much to the beauty  
of the place by their brilliant colour & lively  
movements. - His mother plans since I  
left home - and I begin to long for a little  
country air rest. I hope - if not disappointed  
to get to the Brit. Association meeting at Glasgow  
where I shall meet many of my old friends &  
add not a little to my cryptogamic collection.  
Mentioned in my last a *Leptodermis dendroides* at  
Kelsoe Mr. Marshall - I have now a patch  
of it which I really think will live. Sir  
W. Hooker told me that he saw it planted -  
Mr. M. having sent him it from America  
& imagined it to be a dwarf *Conium*!! Jrs.  
Hooker is now on a visit to the *Heliconia*



Clapham Ridge  
Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> 1855.

My dear Dr. Gray,  
In Dear Papa's absence, I opened your note, & to our extreme pleasure & surprise found you were in England - Dear Mamma thought I had better write you a few lines to tell you of Dear Papa's movements. He left this morning in company with Dr. Deane for Glasgow to be present at the meeting of the British Association, which lasts about eight days, during that time he will reside at Dr. Gourlie's, 39. Lynedoch St. Glasgow, after then, it is his present intention to visit the lakes of Cumberland &c. & be home about the 28<sup>th</sup> or 29<sup>th</sup> of this month - I mention this

as we trust by that time you  
will be able to make arrange-  
ments to stay with us as we  
have plenty of room & I am sure  
I am only anticipating Papa's  
wishes when I say so, as I need  
not say what gratification  
it will be to us all to have  
you once more a guest at  
our home, I only wish dear  
Aunt Gray could have been  
with you - Sincerely hoping  
you have found your Brother-  
in-law improving in health  
with all our very kindest  
regards

believe me to remain  
Yours very sincerely,  
Ann Ward

I have forwarded your note  
to-day

collected near Leon. out of which  
I have been able to send a ~~two~~ <sup>three</sup> ~~over~~ <sup>very</sup>  
supply of medicines. I recd. another  
letter from W. A. - from Sydney dated 26.  
Dec. - in which he gives me a description  
of his visit to one of the Feejean -  
group of islands - and of his visit  
to the Cannibal Chief - whose favour  
he was obliged to propitiate - before  
he could obtain his territories -  
Harris's print - object was to obtain  
a new spec. of *Dammara* for the  
Sydney Garden - I sincerely trust that  
Mr. Gray's wife will let Mr. Loring  
also. We hope some day to see you  
all here again. No one would give  
us so much pleasure - My little  
garden is beginning to look well  
owing not a little to your kind  
encouragement.

With our united kindest regards &  
best wishes to Mr. Gray I believe  
Ever, Your affl. Friend  
N. B. Ward

My dear Gray  
44 Clapham Lane  
26. Mar. 1880

Mr. Gray and yourself will I am  
certain sympathize with my wife & me  
on the loss we have sustained by the  
death of our youngest Daughter - Eliza  
who when in home in England was  
app. the healthiest of the family: some  
months ago - she had a slight cough  
with occasional loss of voice - which  
although it did not app. interfere with  
her health or spirits - yet excited the  
suspicion of my eldest son - who examined  
her chest - and although he could not  
detect any perceptible lesion - yet the  
continuance of the symptoms - induced  
us to send her to the South coast  
where my brother's family were staying  
and she remained several weeks  
without any diminution of strength &



looking so well, that neither her uncle  
nor her Aunt thought there was anything  
the matter with her. On her return,  
however in Feb. there was still the same  
trifling cough - two determined that she  
should spend the winter at Hastings - where  
she was placed under the care of an  
eminent Physician - who had studied  
pulmonary complaints. After having three  
months residence there - this Physician  
wrote me word that she was so much  
improved that I might make my mind  
easy about her as he felt convinced she  
was only suffering from some more local  
affection. - Very shortly after this the  
fatal nature of the disease manifested  
itself and in the third week of February  
I was but too glad to be able to remove  
her to the bosom of her family - as it was  
but too evident that no earthly means  
could any longer be of service - She lived

but ten days after her return home  
dying on the 2<sup>d</sup> of March - Through  
the whole course of her illness when  
fully aware of the fatal tendency she  
ever welcomed us with a smile &  
her last hours was so peaceful & happy  
that - sad as the trial has been to us  
all - we could not desire her continuing  
here - Her Mother bears up with  
perfect resignation to the will of  
God - and seeks for comfort and  
consolation - where only it is to be  
found. - You have I suppose  
heard from Harney at the Queen of  
Islands & have seen the letter he  
addressed to me on the subject of  
supplying the Missinaries with  
Medicines. I have been very successful  
in my applications - having already

favourably. I suppose we shall remove  
during this winter to our new position  
in Burlington House. The expenses of  
removal, amount to near £1000 - have  
been already met by subscription amongst  
the Fellows. - I do not forget - when  
you next pay us a visit - to join our  
L. Club - either at their dinners or ex-  
cursions. You mentioned in one of your  
letters - the prob<sup>l</sup> that we may again  
have the pleasure of seeing W<sup>th</sup> & you  
in England. I need not tell you - that my  
Wife and I would most cordially  
in endeavour to make you both comfortable.

What do you say - to coming here next  
year & going with me to the Nat. An-  
tiquities at Dublin? - Stephen & Mary  
are doing well in their respective walks.  
The former is much pleased with his new  
apartment as I say to the Dreadnought  
as it chimes in with his ethnological  
pursuits - With the united kindest  
regards & best wishes of us all, for may  
happy returns of the approaching year  
bring to you & Mrs. G. - I remain re-  
spectfully  
Your affectionate friend  
W. B. Ward

Clapham Row  
3 Nov 56

My dear Gray

One of your ever welcome  
letters has just come to hand - and  
I have again to thank you for your  
renewed kindness in sending me a  
copy of your Manual - which I am  
sure will afford me much pleasure  
& information. Our dear friend George  
returned home - as you will of course,  
have heard - about a month back - I  
had the great pleasure of finding him  
at Clapham - awaiting my arrival  
home from an excursion in South  
Wales & Devonshire - where I had been  
for about 3 weeks with Charlotte  
& Mary, enjoying ourselves greatly  
& staying home of course. His offer  
for my case Mary appeared in very  
good health, a little attenuated, perhaps



but otherwise in a very satisfactory state  
not a little delighted to be once more  
among his friends — I do not  
not overwork himself during the winter.  
Your book has just reached me — and I  
am sure contribute greatly to my delight,  
particularly with respect to the plates,  
amongst which I happen to be working  
at the present moment. Although I  
have long since given up the purchase  
of dried specimens — (not from want of  
inclination but of means) — I could not  
resist the purchase of a fine set of Wilson's  
British moths, as I am now growing  
very many of them — along with some of the  
smaller British ferns. A friend of mine  
Mr. Higgins of Darshill at Liverpool has  
a large *Byzantium* in which he cultivates  
successfully nearly half the British Ferns,  
and has enabled Wilson by means of it  
to add more than one new species to our  
 flora. I must have *Sellwicks* & *Leopold*  
*Muscic. borealis* — *Americana*, and will feel  
greatly obliged if you will either order a

copy for me, or tell me whether it is  
procurable in London. As soon as I  
receive it — I will remit the purchase  
money in any way that may be most  
convenient — — — — —  
My fear that has for your visit  
here in America — do not altogether  
despair of paying you & Mr. Gray a visit  
— I present my remembrance, I am hindered by pressing  
causes which confine me near home —  
The principal trouble has, of course, been the  
severe & protracted illness of my dear wife  
but I am most thankful to say that her  
state for the last 6 months has been very  
much more satisfactory and I do not  
despair of seeing her even still better  
as her neuralgic attacks are by no means  
so severe, and she has regained a little  
her lost strength. Nothing I know would  
please her more than for me to run over  
to see you, as she is never so happy as  
when she travels — I am enjoying myself  
amid the beauties of Nature, for amongst  
friends whom we both love — you would  
be glad to hear that our time & Mr. Under  
the presidency of Bale, is progressing most

My dear Gray

Clapham Ave  
25 Jan 1857.

The writer of the enclosed Lib.  
is a most worthy man and one whom  
I wish well to this projected work on  
the ferns is much wanted - amid the  
endless confusion of synonyms existing  
at present in that Order and - if you  
can oblige him by solving any of his  
doubts - you will be - I think, conferring  
a favour upon science. - We shall  
have a grand microscopic Party at  
our Apollo Hall on <sup>the week</sup> ~~the~~ the 20<sup>th</sup> to be  
followed by me on the mon<sup>d</sup>. of the 21<sup>st</sup>  
for Ladies - How much I wish that  
you & W<sup>m</sup> Gray could be present -  
I need say of your Countrymen a friend  
be independent that time it will give  
me great pleasure to forward to them  
cards of invitation - I am most  
happy to tell you that my dear Wife is



upon the whole better & that the rest  
of my family are pretty well except  
Nath who has been overworked - He is  
now recruiting at Brighton - I continue  
to add to my garden - The *Sarracenia*  
*purpurea* has now withstood two winters  
in the open pond - planted in a drain  
pipe - the roots within 3 inches of the  
water - The *Sanguinaria* & other plants  
you sent me contribute not a little  
to the ornament of my little paradise  
and I am now adding a number of  
roses to the collection - which will  
I hope succeed & interest the Botanist  
of the time - I can give you duplicates  
of nearly half the B. Roses - should you  
wish for them. - Ann begs me to give  
her love to Mr Gray & to say that she hopes  
to hear soon from her - Would you have  
any new microscope object of interest - will  
you kind friend inform me for our approaching  
display at the Sale - - - - With our  
united kindest regards - Love & best  
wishes - Ever & most affect. friend  
V. B. Ward

of the simple & efficient way in which *Meibomia* is  
reformed by means of the *Macrostis piperina*.  
Furnishing food & preparing the soil in the east  
and then applying both the words of the

In human beings, this laboured on with pain  
& thousand movements scarce one purpose gain  
In God's one single can it's end produce  
And serves to second too - some other use -  
We have now been at home for a month - all much better  
for the change - My dear Wife continues still extremely  
weak - but I don't think she has had as much pain  
as usual. It is very sad to see her constantly bowed down  
by suffering & debility but she is wonderfully supported  
well knowing that it is all for the best. - I don't Mr. Gray  
are often in her thoughts she would much like (as  
would we all) to see you both again. - I have paid  
me a visit on Sunday - He is now at home writing  
out his intended *Flora Capensis* - I. Mother & his Wife  
are quite well - The latter has just lost her Mother  
Mr. Manslow - I think is well - but is occupied  
with farming matters that I question whether he will  
ever again get to work at his *Herbarium*. I don't know  
what specimens of any particular family I have no  
doubt that Wright would send them to you with pleasure  
or I would go & get them for you - I have been so  
wholly taken up with Nath. Allen's & other matters that  
I have not yet sent W. Eaton the ropes. They will  
now be dispatched in about a week or ten days.  
Stephen is getting on well. He likes his position as  
Physician of the Dreadnought - and has just commenced the  
publication of a series of cases, commencing with abdominal  
disease. - My leisure time is not agreeably  
occupied with carving & the like. - Indras & all sorts of  
acceptable treasures. With the united love of us all to you  
& Mr. Gray & the best wishes for the return of many a happy  
I must believe me ever Your affect. Friend  
N. D. Ward

My dear Gray

14 Clapham Place  
25 Nov 57

Our dear friend Carey has just com-  
municated to me the losses you and your family  
have sustained in the money panic in America  
shortly since. So we all sympathize with you  
that I believe the loss of wealth to the general  
and evil but that with you and yours - your means  
of usefulness are crippled. I too in this way  
have my trials - My second son Nath. had just  
succeeded in establishing here himself in practice when  
it pleased the Almighty to afflict him with a  
severe mental attack which has for the present  
severed the tie between him & his patients and he  
must lie in life over again. but I have much cause  
for thankfulness in his restoration to health and I  
trust he will hereafter by past experience and not  
again overwork his brain. We have been spending  
this winter weeks in the New Forest - Hampshire where  
I often wished for you and Mr. Gray as I am sure  
you would have greatly enjoyed it. I will try and give  
you some little idea of the district although words  
can but very inadequately describe the reality. New  
Forest has been a forest for several centuries & contains  
43,000 acres of which at the present time about 30,000  
are cleared & occupied by lovely villages & gentlemen's  
seats while the remainder is covered by the most luxur-  
iant growth of Oaks and Beeches. I have ever seen  
with here and there magnificent specimens of the  
Duir - Chestnut - Alder - Elm - & Birch & Elm -  
the ground carpeted over the whole extent - in the wetter  
places with Myrica Gale & moisture loving ferns - as  
Asplenium - A. filix femina - Blechnum boreale &c.



While *Steno Rejulina* ~~now~~ in all its rich variety  
of autumnal tints, decorates the drier higher the  
layer portions of the surface. The ground is most favorable  
for the effect. being exceedingly unequal - forming  
in many places lofty ridges - from which fine panoramas  
view of 150 miles in circumference are to be obtained  
while in others the fresh glades are so deep and dark  
as to be impervious to the rays of the sun - all dark  
amid the glare of noon. - The most interesting inhabitants  
of the forest at this season are unquestionably the pigs.  
Every inhabitant has the privilege of sending any number  
of pigs to fatten on the acorns which must be by payment  
of 2 for each hog a sow and 3 for each adult or young pig.  
The great object of the industrious laborer is to save from  
his winter and spring earnings enough to buy a few lean  
pigs - these pigs collected together from all quarters are  
introduced to each other for a week or ten days, and fed  
entirely one day. They are then taken into the forest - some  
2-3 or 4 miles from home - have a bed made for them of  
the ferns of the common brake and a good supper given  
them for the first & sometimes the second night - after  
which they are left entirely to themselves - and although  
they may roam for a mile or two in search of food during  
the day always return to the same bed at night - never  
go astray nor interfere with any of the other little  
communities of pigs that are ranging about in the  
same forest. - Dr. W. Gilpin in his Forest Scenery  
speaks in terms of laudation of the pig. - He says that  
it possesses much more intelligence than is usually  
ascribed to it - and that its language is more expressive  
than that of most animals. - Mr. C. was one of the few  
men who devoted his life to the improvement of the con-  
dition of his agricultural neighbors - and that in the  
most efficient way - by rendering their homes as com-  
fortable as their limited means would allow. The

cottages are perfect models of neatness - clean  
& comfortable within and lovely without. - Southey in his  
"Doctor's" says - that where you see a *Shed* or a *Waterflower*  
or a *pink* or a *side* a cottage - depend upon it - there is a  
pottery or a cabbage for the pot within. Here this is  
fully borne out. Most of these humble dwellings are  
furnished with a porch - and all are covered with various  
kinds of beautiful plants. - I remember not worth more  
than 24 or 26 a year are covered with climbing roses  
Longonchles, Clematis, &c. &c. and it would be a shame  
to be ashamed. Mr. B. Stiles heart to have seen the  
lovely intermixture of our Fox - with your Virginian  
creeper and its crimson or scarlet autumnal leaves -  
festooning over the porch and around the dwelling  
windows of these lovely cottages. The poor inhabitants  
appear to be in all respects well off. - No symptoms  
of poverty or want are to be seen - and during our  
sojourn we did not encounter a single beggar. - our  
weather was most favorable - alternate clouds and  
sunshine - just the combination required to set off a win-  
ter scenery to the greatest advantage - except that of the New  
Forest - which is not as good one brand of consistency  
of shade. - But a most happy admixture of all that is  
beautiful & lovely. I will not however attempt any further  
to describe that - which is of your excellent writer  
Miss Cooper in her Journal of a Naturalist in the U.S.  
says is indescribable. - From Lyndhurst we went to  
see of our prettiest & scenic places - Downmouth where  
we staid a week - then went on to Weymouth, a very  
interesting locality. The mile (as it is called) of Portland  
& the new Breakwater described a capricious rough & rough  
attention. - On the latter two men are daily employed & have  
been so for years - some time while the ship before it  
is completed. - I need not but reflect upon Darwin's aid

[1852]

My dear Gray

14. Clapham  
Rine S. 31. Dec.

Which I wrote you in my  
last that the health of my dear  
Wife was failing. Still then she  
continued to get thinner and weaker  
until the 28. when God was pleased  
to release her from a state of true  
suffering which had lasted for  
several years - during the whole of  
which not one word of murmur was  
heard from her lips - Her end was  
most peaceful happy - surrounded  
by all whom she most dearly loved  
and for whom alone she lived. During  
the whole of our long wedded life



Never knowen to have a selfish  
wish - or do a selfish act. He is  
now - I trust - reaping the reward pro-  
mised to all - who in humble reliance  
upon their Saviors - patiently continue  
in well-doing - The horse seems a  
sad blank without her - for although  
she had been confined for 3 or 4 years -  
she took a most lively interest in the  
doings of every member of her family  
nothing ever giving her so much grati-  
fication, as the little journeyings of  
some of us into the country - When she  
knew we should be deriving health  
from a pleasant excursion - Our Christmas  
has been spent monotonously yet not  
altogether unprofitably - causing us to look  
into ourselves - and so by the grace of

God to act - that - this blessed  
we may again be united in endless  
bliss. It is a great consolation to  
know that some of them were pre-  
vented by any cause from ministering  
to their dear brother night and day.

We are all thank God - pretty well  
kindle with me in love to Mr. Gray  
and yourself & best wishes for the  
coming year -

Ever  
Yours affly. Friends  
N. D. Ward

"Unknown God" and where could they find a more  
magnificent dwelling place for the deity than that  
to which they were surrounded - to which they surely  
attempted to imitate. We staid for two or three days  
with the power of the Lakes (Lac des Monts)  
and had an opportunity of learning a little more of  
the inhabitants than falls to the lot of hasty tourists  
in general. However great we may be delighted with  
the natural scenery we feel still greater delight  
in the appearance of the inhabitants - We did not see  
a single beggar in the whole of our journey nor  
see a single barefooted person of any age or sex.  
You know well how greatly the pleasure of a trip  
to Killarney is marred by the wretched poverty -  
stricken appearance of the inhabitants - but there  
all is in season - the country - fresh and fair as on  
the morning of its creation - and then Coburn upward -  
having come respect to the dignity of his being -

Don't I must close - I am happy to tell you  
that Stephen & Nath. are both well & living  
in their respective walks of life - & that my  
family here are all well - I find abundant  
amusement in one of the bye walks of botanical  
science which I think likely to afford useful prac-  
tical results. With the best wishes of us all  
to Mr. Gray & yourself Believe me ever  
your affectionate friend  
V. B. Ward

My dear Gray

It was 1850. -

The return of this happy season  
always brings more vividly to mind recollections  
of our absent friends and among them I can  
with truth assure you - none have a stronger  
hold on our affections than yourself & Mr. Gray.  
We are looking forward with much hoped  
pleasure to the expectation of again seeing you  
at Clapham & trust that you will not let  
another year pass without paying us a visit.  
Miss Martineau - she has gone on as usual  
with the exception of a most pleasant excursion  
to the meeting of the B. Association at Leeds - where  
my two youngest daughters and I were most hospitably  
entertained in the house of one of the first Physicians  
there - and Weston to whom we were entire strangers  
but who had visited us - he gave us glass previously  
he had breakfasted with me in W. Regent - after my  
having awarded him one of the Botanical Society  
medals - I read three papers at the meeting - one on  
Suburban Gardens - one on Agave - & the B. Society  
occupied (to myself) in one of the advantages  
derivable from the study of Botany - Miss Coburn's paper  
originated in a communication I recd. at Leeds  
from the Bishop of Exeter - & the following effect



the conversion of an entire parish through  
the instrumentality of flowers. The Bishop told me  
that the parish of Airedale in his Diocese  
was tenanted by the most lawless set of peasants  
in his whole Diocese in consequence of there  
not having been a resident Clergyman among  
them for many years - the living - (£230 p. ann.)  
being too poor for a poor parson - & too uninviting  
for a rich one - until at length a Mr. Boyd  
determined to cast his lot among them & endeavor  
to humanise & Christianise them. To this end  
he surrounded his house with a lovely garden  
full of choice flowers and with no small  
trouble - begged his unwilling parishioners only  
barely to shroud to admire them - telling them  
that God had made them for them - as well as for  
him and that if they liked to have some - he would  
show them how to make them grow. In this way he  
got into their dwellings - and those who had eleven  
their wives & children to die from want of light &  
filth & abominations of all kinds - removed  
all the dirt-paned & filthy windows & built for  
the reception of the flowers. In this manner the  
work of reformation commenced - and the results  
have been most satisfactory. There is not a more  
contented & happier set of villagers in all Yorkshire  
than those of this lately enlightened parish.

After the meeting at Leeds we proceeded to the

lakes of Cumberland & Westmoreland which under  
the guidance of some local friends - my daughter &  
I enjoyed most thoroughly - despite of the weather  
which was as usual windy. This hard rain however  
enabled us to see things in perfection the rich  
natural tints - which in sunny weather are too  
frequently shrouded in mist. Will not attempt to  
describe to you the varied beauties of this part of our  
isle. Neither pen nor pencil can do them justice.  
It is curious to observe in a country the whole of  
which would seem to be admirably adapted for all  
our ferns - the restriction of certain species to certain  
geological formations - thus - at Wharfedale Scar in  
Westmoreland - there is a large tract of water worn  
limestone slabs - the fissures between which varying  
in depth from 3 or 4 inches to a few feet - are  
filled with a dozen or more species of ferns - but  
among them - not a plant is to be found - of *Adiantum*  
*crispum* - one of the most abundant ferns in the two  
counties - but confined to the slate rocks - which  
in these latter - you will not find either *Polypodium*  
*calcareum* or *Lactuca rigida* - which abound on  
the limestone - Near Keswick is one of the finest  
Druidical circles in the country, situated on a com-  
manding eminence surrounded by a circle of  
mountains. Like many others, I could not help spec-  
ulating on the origin of these rude temples to the



the most interesting botanists & herbarium will be  
imagined - that which exhibits a rather illustrated  
various conditions of climate - soil & means of  
faithfully grouped assemblages of spontaneous vegetation  
which not only give most true indications of the nature  
of the climate under which such plants were growing  
but likewise show the variations <sup>in</sup> individual  
species by varying conditions. I knowledge of this  
kind were more abused we should not then require  
a Botanic to keep the species within their proper  
bounds. A mountainous region offers some advan-  
tages for study of this kind. The constant supply of  
water from mountain hills produces a very differing  
appearance in the vegetation. & that within a  
very few feet on the hill sides. In traversing most  
of the mountain peaks the contrast is most striking.  
A pleasant light will be seen filling her patches.  
A little natural fountain by the road side. A  
strip of the liveliest verdure will be seen ascending  
to the very summit of the hill, whilst all around  
is either barrenness & desolation. But with all  
this you must be as familiar as myself. But  
my paper warns me to conclude this sheet. My  
own garden is most luxuriant. Have said it  
might be called the Wilderness - a name it  
richly deserves. - But of a few are growing  
magnificently. We have heard that Mr. G. has  
not been so well as could be wished. Do you not  
really think that a visit to us would be of great  
service? I cannot tell you how delighted we should  
all be to see her. With the warm love of my dear Mrs.  
and myself to her & you. Believe me to be  
affectionate friend Mrs. Vard

My dear Gray

New York 8 Oct 1839.

Although I believe you are indebted  
to me in two letters. I must take the oppor-  
tunity of I am writing to Mr. Gray - to enquire  
after you & yours - You have always a abundance of  
valuable & interesting information to communicate  
not to myself - my life papers are most thankful - ex-  
tended when relieved & visited by comm. or visits from  
dear friends - like yourself Mary or Arthur  
or when I can away for an annual holiday - which  
this year has been a most pleasant & most con-  
fined one. - Mary, Charlotte & I went to Bergen  
in the middle of July & spent a very delightful  
month among the mountains, lakes & valleys of  
North Wales. Taken as a whole - I believe the  
scenery here is unrivalled in Great Britain.  
One of our first rate landscape painters - David  
Cole painted no less than fifty portraits to Portraits of  
Cole - within a few miles of London - He paid  
a visit - the same as me alas - to this lovely spot  
figure to yourself three mountain rivulets rising  
divided from each other by mountains of 1500 or 2000  
ft. elevation within an area of not more than 5  
or 10 miles in diameter - with the usual accompani-  
ments of waterfalls, paths or extraordinary bridges



side cottages - thatched with most luxuriant  
vegetation of *Polytrichum vulgare* - *Ledum anglicum*  
*Shephersonia* - with here & there little patches of alpine  
pasture (most brilliantly green) - surrounded on  
all sides by Scotch Fir & Larch &c. which latter  
sometimes rises to the summit of the hills, whilst  
in other places - bare pinnacles of rock as if  
way of contrast - alone are to be seen. - Should I  
ever revisit Wales - I should certainly spend two or  
three weeks in this locality. Doubt the whole of  
the country when seen under any circumstances but  
more especially under the influence of mingled clouds  
sunshine offers a series of views of the most  
enchanting character. One of the places we visited  
which gave us an mixed delight - was Penrhyn Pits  
slate quarries, in themselves most improving from the  
extent of the works & their position amidst the loftiest  
mountains of N. Wales. But the great interest arises  
from the condition of the labourers & their families  
amounting altogether to nearly ten thousand persons.  
Col. Penrhyn & Lady Lonsdale his wife - like some  
others of our great men - employ their great  
wealth for the benefit of those around them - They  
have built & endowed two Churches - four schools -  
& have moreover established a model village, every  
cottage in which is beautifully built - with a large  
garden full of choice flowers - the majority of which  
are raised by Lady Penrhyn in her own grounds - The  
lead gardener told me that 500-600 dozen of bedding  
plants are ann. raised in the gardens of the Castle

principally for the purpose of supplying the gardens  
of this model village & of the gardens of other  
industrious & honest workmen - Penrhyn Castle is  
itself a most imposing structure - built to corres-  
pond with the adjoining Castles of Caernarvon &  
Conwy. It cost a million & a half & is situated  
in a most imposing park of large dimensions, com-  
manding in various places some of the finest sea-  
& mountainous views in the country. - The arrangement  
of the whole of the extensive pleasure grounds is most  
perfect & in excellent taste. Art has done every  
thing in it - but is nowhere to be seen. - We spent three  
or four most pleasant days - on the water - chiefly in  
the Menai Straits - where banks are beautifully wooded  
& were never wearied in admiration of the Menai &  
Dubaut bridges - We visited among other places -  
Puffin Bay Island & Bardsey Island - the latter remark-  
able as having been the landing place of many of the  
bands of Wales - I never saw - (but once & that in January)  
water so transparent as that which washes the shores  
of this little island. Long before the boat grounded - we  
could see at 2 or 3 fathoms depth - the whole of the  
submarine vegetation, forming quite a forest - & could  
distinguish with perfect ease - all the species - a black  
pin might easily have been distinguished on the disinte-  
grated rock - upon which the plants were growing  
I could not but call to mind - the description given by  
Stowe of the reefs in Darnest Island. - Made a  
few additions to my large coll. of Algae - not so much  
fresh species - as of old ones - under a new face -  
i.e. modified by varying climatal conditions. - One of

interpreters? - endeavoring to show - that  
there are aspects of nature everywhere around  
us - which - if rightly considered - might  
prove of infinite utility - as affording most  
reliable proofs of climatal conditions

I have already most numerous & valuable  
illustrations of these facts - derived from  
Ireland - Cumberland - dry mountains, wet  
mountains &c. - the specimens telling  
most unmistakably of varying amounts  
of moisture - light - nature of soil &c. &c.  
A sea sheet is a beautiful object  
as all objects are & must be in Nature  
when considered as a whole, & in connexion  
with each other. - One portion of my  
series will exhibit a large series of known  
rain plants of Europe - arranged according  
to their elevations. - But I must conclude

I am happy to have any duplicate I possess  
shall be thankful in them, and I have been  
working away at them for some months - and  
am quite in love with them - My daughters  
write with me in love with them. - I am, Sir,  
& believe me ever your aff. Servant  
W. D. Ward  
NB - We shall fully expect you have not a glass

My dear Gray

The Downs -  
Clapham Hill -  
1. Nov 1850.

Your kind friend, D. Green -  
called here last evening to pay (most  
unexpectedly to us) his farewell  
visit - He leaving to day for Liverpool  
I take the opportunity of sending by  
him the two packets of papers which  
you recommended me - along with  
a few - to send to W. S. Sullivan - and  
to Mr. Eaton - whose Christian name  
I believe is John - if it be not - You  
will have the kindness to correct  
my address. - I think you said in  
one of your letters that you would



forward their parcels. — I have this  
year spent a month on the Carter Lane  
Coast — but was not part. fortunate  
in making acquisitions by my intercourse. I go  
in consequence of the exposed nature of the  
coast — the northern seas sweeping clear  
the rockpools — the only productive field  
was in the Lamination zone to which  
access was only obtained at low water  
in spring tides. when the *L. digitata* was  
a sight worth seeing — its stems of 6  
feet more in length being completely  
coated with a profusion of beautiful  
although common life — with various  
mollusks & zoophytes. — At Scarborough  
I had the great pleasure of making personal  
acquaintance with Mr Bean who  
now in his 76<sup>th</sup> year — who is a fine spec.  
of the 'Cetera et uicula senectus' — as well  
pictured by him. In above 50 years  
has Mr B. devoted himself to the illustration

to the natural history of the N. Coast, often  
leaving home on foot for thirty — 40 miles  
distant. with bag & mallet & shovel —  
working away for 5 or 6 hours at Whithy  
either on the beach — or suspended by a  
ladder from the summit of the cliffs — &  
then walking back to Scarborough — with a load  
of 30 or 40 pounds on his back — His Exiles  
have recently been purchased by the British  
Museum for £100. — He has still most  
complete & beautifully preserved specimens of  
all the shells — <sup>land & sea</sup> — crabs —  
mollusks — crustacea — echinoderm. — Radiata  
&c &c — I know who paid me a visit  
was quite astonished at the perfect state  
of preservation in which the most delicate  
extraditable animals — were exhibited, as  
for instance — the spec. of *Ophiurus* L. &c  
I am engaged to give a paper at the next  
meeting of the D. Association at Manchester  
on 'aspects of nature' — Do not for a moment  
imagine that I am entering such a field as  
a rival of Humboldt — but merely following  
him — as a humble 'natural minister' &

and ascertain the amount of lost time & papers  
of his school children and the good effect produced  
in their minds & dispositions & so on nobles &  
pursuits. - Had the opportunity of a long conversa-  
tion with Rowland on the Darwinian doctrines to  
which he was wholly & ably opposed - not  
thinking them to be tenable on philosoph. grounds  
and having moreover to share the faith of  
sincere-headed Christians. I think I may say that I  
think entirely with him notwithstanding my  
having read your observations (for which I thank  
you heartily) with great attention. Rowland told  
me that the subject had been over & over  
and over to him - the more so - as Darwin had  
been one of his pupils. - My garden is becoming  
more & more wild every year - and - if I am alive  
next spring - I shall I think venture to ask  
you to send me another care of plants - I think  
I could now manage to grow *Oxypodium dendro-*  
*donlandum* & *Cheerac sacculina* & possibly  
others without any artificial heat. - *Allosorus*  
*crispus* that used to baffle me and thrives as well  
as in its native Waller or Northmoreland & *Pinquula*  
grandiflora finds itself as much at home as in  
its Irish bog. - My Daughters are anticipating  
with much delight another visit from Mr. Gray  
I sincerely hope that they may not be disappointed  
All of us unite in love & best wishes and  
believe me ever  
Your most affectionate friend

My dear Gray  
Write you kindly forward the enclosed to Dr. Ward  
with which I thank Mr. Eason for his kind present  
which pleased me much

My dear Gray  
Boston 5. May 1861.  
At last - I find time to answer your  
most kind & dear letter which I should have  
replied to long since; could I have done so satisfactorily.  
but if I found me in the commencement of a very  
serious illness - bronchitis - which confined me to my  
room for nearly three months - and I am but just now  
able to say that I am recovering. In addition to  
this - Mr. W. had a repetition of affluents of the head  
arising from great overanxiety & overwork at the  
Hospital, which threw him out of business for  
four or five months & compelled him to resign his  
post of Surgeon to the Hospital, and although now  
that he has recovered from his severe affliction  
he finds that he has lost his courage - which  
cannot be regained without great labour and the  
exercise of much patience. But I have stea-  
dily news to tell you. Stephen has lost his  
dear wife. She had been suffering from head  
affection & erysipelas - of a rather alarming character  
for a year or two, when after giving birth to a  
small little girl about 16 months ago her health  
appeared to improve for two or three months, when  
the old symptoms recurred with increased severity  
with the addition of disease of the liver & dropsy  
under which she died about 22 months ago.  
I was too ill to see her during the whole of her  
illness - until the day before she died - when I  
was most thankful to see her - I found her  
most cheerfully resigned in the midst of her suffer-  
ings & that her end was most tranquil.



that little, it is quite well, and in regard  
may suppose - great comfort to her bereaved  
father and to his all. The long illness has of  
course weakened her much. I marvel how  
glad does not recover her readily from severe  
attacks - but a fortnight with my dear friend Dr.  
Hight and her visitation in the E. S. collection has  
done much to set me up again - and as present  
visit here will I hope enable to resume  
my professional duties as usual. Expected to  
have almost done with the work by this time, but  
my income has been curtailed (within the last  
two years) £200. ann. - in consequence of the  
profitless wasteful expenditure of money by the  
London Dock Corp<sup>y</sup>. This however is a minor  
evil which may be remedied in course of time.  
I have now given you more than enough of sad  
detail - Let me turn to a brighter side of the  
picture, in which I am sure you will heart-  
ily share with me. You will not think it strange  
when I tell you - in truth - that many - otherwise  
unconscious of infirmities - are compensated to  
me by the opportunities thus afforded me of  
studying the works - in addition to the Word  
of God. I am preparing a paper which I hope  
to be able to read at the next meeting of the  
"British Assoc<sup>n</sup> on 'Aspects of Nature and its  
teachings'. Many sleepless nights have been  
most pleasantly & I hope not unprofitably  
spent in these contemplations of the Wisdom

of God in creation - and I cannot but think  
I hope to impress upon the minds of my audience  
that the wisest would be wiser & better if more  
attention were paid to Natural History pursuits.  
But I am thinking too much of myself & of  
your concerns - Now as I sympathise  
with you & express the deep regret with  
which the minds of every Englishman I know  
is common with myself - are filled at the  
sad dispensations of America - which must  
produce incalculable mischief not to  
themselves only - but to all the world -  
God grant that so horrid a civil war  
may be averted. We agreed that none of  
us feel any sympathy with the slave owners &  
wonder the result of the conflict to end in the  
abolition of slavery - we would not look  
forward to it with such apprehension -  
but such a consummation, however devout  
to be wished - can hardly be expected -  
You will doubtless have heard from Boston  
of the fallacy of the helpless & hopeless condition  
(as regards this life) of dear F. Douglass. His  
stating mind however is such as to enable  
him to triumph over death and to triumph over all  
that our sad mortal life has. I desired  
perhaps last time to see him some time before my illness  
& he then made me promise to visit him this spring

the Laminarian Zone - as furnishing the  
food for countless thousands or millions of  
fish - one of the great sources of our  
national wealth. - We have had in the  
last month another death in our family  
in the person of Henry Martin a shepherd of  
mine who had been suffering for years  
from disease of the lungs - some years ago  
he was about to enter the Church - when  
an attack of hemoptysis put a stop to his  
career at Oxford - since which time he  
had occupied himself in collecting rare  
prints & portraits - the former he has given  
to the Brit. Museum - the latter to the National  
Portrait Gallery - His end was very sudden  
from an attack of hemorrhage - but he had  
been long prepared for the change - His Mother  
has now no one to left - in New Zealand  
and feels sad & bereft - We are all quite  
well but have spent rather a mournful Christmas  
talking me full about the state of affairs  
with you - when you write - We all feel most  
sincerely for you - Tell me how you are -  
Yours most affectionately  
Wm. J. Wood

I will write regularly to you & your

My dear Gray  
De Texas  
1 Jan 1862

I cannot comment the new  
year better than to write you & wish  
you and your good wife a sort  
of good wishes on the part of us all  
and at the same time to ask your  
pardon for not having written earlier  
this. Two causes have prevented me  
from doing so - firstly the anxious  
desire to congratulate you on the near  
prospect of a happy termination of your  
civil war - which appears also to be  
still far off - and 2<sup>d</sup> to be enabled to  
give you a letter as soon as my health  
the usual visit (this of the Dartmouth)  
did me more harm than good - since to  
dark - cold & disagreeable weather for the first  
3 weeks - so that I was compelled to  
spend two or three weeks in the Berkshire  
Coast - and the weather being fine - I



am thankful to say I derived much  
benefit - and am now considerably  
better than at this time last year, when  
I was confined to bed. I have just been  
appointed Treasurer to our Anti-Sl.  
having served an apprenticeship of four  
years as Deputy. One might obtain some  
idea of the horrors of war from the extent  
of our dealings - A month ago we con-  
tracted for 45,000 ounces of Diarrhoea most  
of which for the supply of the Army & Navy.  
This article Diarrhoea alone - costs us about  
£25000 and so you may imagine I  
have enough to occupy my mind - independ-  
ently of private business - I think I  
should soon break down were it not for  
the recreations which Poetry affords.  
My natural groupings are appreciated  
all learned & unlearned. I should think  
I gave a lecture on 'Effects of Nature' and  
their teachings to a most useful institution

The Anti-Slavery Society - established for  
the purpose of affording amusement and  
instruction to the labourer after his day's  
work - instead of their seeking relaxation  
in the pot-house. - It has already done  
much good - I took for my immediate  
subjects - the freezing ponds of Clapham  
Common - telling them what took place  
exp. the freezing of water - and the mis-  
ery in the water. - Of these I had a great  
number of illustrations - exp. of the economic  
misery of Lapland & - & took the opportunity  
of comparing & contrasting the happy - and  
innocent lives of the Laplanders with  
their deep sense of religion - with the lawless  
& unchristianized wants & wishes of the lower  
classes among more civilized nations -  
I had a most attentive & I believe, pleased  
audience. One of them said - in reference to  
the beauty of the specimens - 'More - busy  
to my mind the scene in the Palms &  
'All thy works praise Thee - O God' -  
My next lecture to them will be on marine  
plants - part of the inhabitants of the

the Exhibition - as I have not been able to  
make a claim to it - I am not sufficiently  
to add the feeling of right seeing to my com-  
pulsory work. - The picture gallery is said to  
be the finest in the world - but I am told  
by competent authorities - that in point of real  
interest - it was far exceeded by the Manchester  
Exhibition a few years ago. - And is - of course  
progressing - but in my opinion - not quite in  
the right direction as I think Sir W. G. would  
not wish to direct - and not to be influenced by  
the morbid public taste. - Had I the  
power of writing as fluently as yourself - I  
would write a paper on the subject - taking  
from my notes - 'minium ne crude colorit'

I am happy to say that we are all quite well.  
Send you at least one of my 'Cartes de visite'  
in exchange for the one you so kindly sent me  
some months ago. - We all write in kindest  
regards & best wishes to you & Mr. Gray, I  
hoping soon to have the pleasure of welcoming  
you in England. - Believe me, ever  
your aff. friend  
Reminded us kind Yrs. D. Green N. D. Ward  
P.S. I am more than ever thankful for any of your  
local stamps.

My dear Gray

The Devon Office  
20. Apr. 1862.

I have rarely seen a paper which  
gave me more pleasure than the one you have  
so kindly sent me. 'On the alpine plants of the  
Dorset Mountains' - I have now for some time  
partly been engaged in arranging a large portion  
of my herbarium - under various 'Aspects of  
Nature' and among these aspects - are some  
which are more interesting to me - than those  
which present themselves as on the borders  
of eternal snow - and to which are here applied  
the lines of the Latin poet - 'Ultima Thule  
et visum habet hile frigus' - Is it  
possible to obtain a set of these plants - either  
by exchange or purchase? - My brother has  
Proc. and I would be glad as it did last year  
I expect to read a paper on 'Aspects de la flore'  
the meeting of the British Assoc. which  
takes place at Cambridge - the first week  
in October. - Could you not - with Mr. Gray



one see the wind up of the Exhibition  
& accompany me to Cambridge. We  
should all of us be most delighted to  
welcome you both at Clapham. — My  
fears are now in all their glory owing  
to the continued recurrence of rain. The large  
patch of Asparagus eight feet in diameter  
and more than a hundred years 4 or 5 ft. long  
above & of them in fine condition, &c.  
but I fear that the disease war in which  
you are engaged — must engross too much  
of your thoughts to allow you to dwell upon  
a joy in botanical pursuits — I had  
hoped — say ere this — to have heard of  
the successful termination of the war — and  
the return of your disabled ones — but  
the end appears to be as far off as ever —  
I do hope you will soon be able to send us  
good news — The bot. Soc. of Dublin since  
a far better sep. — had determined to give  
up their garden at Chelsea — but I am  
happy to tell you that at the last meeting

of the Committee it was determined to keep  
it up, and to submit as available evidence  
for the instruction of the students in every branch  
of botanical science & more esp. as regards  
red soil plants. — In this spirit — you  
can help us — as we are constantly receiving  
applications about the late for American  
remedies (Many of them vegetables introduced  
into your Pharmacopoeias — Podophyllin  
is one of the things often asked for —  
But with respect to the articles of the  
British Materia Medica — there is no small amount  
of humbug about them — A man who has  
nothing else to recommend him — puffs off  
in conjunction with some well known chemist  
an article — & the profit is divided — Another  
way of getting on is by giving exhibitions  
of the article at Druggists shops — and although  
no fee is asked — the poor deluded patients  
pay 3 or 4 shillings — for what they need  
otherwise have to pay 10 or 12 — I  
suppose however — these tricks are not confined  
to Great Britain. — I have not yet visited

full detail of my schemes - hoping that you  
from your experience in teaching will enable  
me to correct what is wrong and to supply  
what is deficient, as I am most anxious that  
the Garden should not suffer through ignorance  
on the part of the estimation of the scientific  
public - which they have so long and so justly  
enjoyed. - I am not perhaps aware that  
35 years before they established the garden - i.e.  
in 1699 - Dr. Johnson - one of their Fellows - made  
a botanical expedition into Kent - which were  
published & dedicated to the Master Wardens &c  
of the Society & his travelling companions  
as the exp. was undertaken under the auspice  
of the Socy. The list of plants found on this occasion  
was the first local flora publ. in England.  
Three other lists were sub. publ. - of plants at  
Dorset - N. Wales - & on Rye instead of Kent - &c. &c.  
as you know - published the amended edition of  
Greville & was so noted for the extent of his knowledge  
as to have the degree of L.L.D. conferred on him  
by the Univ. of Oxford - Truly afterwards - taking part  
in the wars of the Commonwealth - he was killed at  
the Siege of Basing. My paper is now full & you must  
have had more than enough of Chelsea. I expect to  
hear from you soon & wish the loss and vexation  
of so all to you & Mr. Gray may be happy new year to  
you both - Ever your affec. friend N. Ward

My dear Gray

The Oaks - Chize 31.  
Dec 1862.

I might long rather to have written  
you - but I have been much occupied and  
much distressed - My son Nathl. has been again  
overtaxing his mental powers - and is now incapable  
of pursuing his profession - and I fear will never  
be able to resume it - This is a most sad blow to  
us - as he was going on most prosperously - and  
could we have persuaded him to take things easily  
it must have gone well - but it was not to be.  
However painful the trial, we must be assured that  
God does not willingly afflict us - and that all  
will in the end be productive of good - I might  
indeed have feared you with a trouble - you  
must have enough of your own - in the distressed  
state of your country - We cannot but think that your  
cause has been wretchedly mismanaged - and that  
the chances of a favourable termination to your  
troubles are more remote than ever - It would have  
been a glorious result to have accomplished your  
section accord. with the prospective abolition of  
slavery - but such ideas are now I fear hopeless  
- At least - however - that all is well with you & yours



How greatly we wish - that you and Mr. Gray  
could pass another winter - I am vain enough  
to think that it would benefit you both - I am  
greatly obliged by Dr. Fung's letter - One of the  
prospects he found on Mount Gray - the Pon-  
laga - was one of two coll. of *Asplenium* on the highest  
point he reached on that shore. Still he  
sight in supposing that this was one of the  
Canadian *Idem* - which had migrated to such  
distant regions? It is a question in which I  
am much interested - and a set of Dr. Fung's  
alpine plants is to be procured - I should much  
like to have it - and will forward you the amount  
for it in any way you may point out - The Chelsea  
Garden occupies much of a store - I had known  
whether I informed you of our contemplated pro-  
ceedings with regard to its renovation - All  
depends upon the land I am therefore most  
anxious to make it as perfect a school for  
botany as possible - as well as for all lovers  
of Nature - These built a new house - facing the  
east - 50 ft. by 10 - for the best of sixteen plants  
which require only a few hours morning sun - to  
be protected from the effects of frost & dry atmosphere  
at the same time that they require no artificial  
heat - The two large lean-to-houses - which you

may recollect are to contain Tropeics of Nature  
tropical semitropical regions - and as  
there will be as tubs or pots - and the plants  
will be arranged into natural groups - they  
will I am sure please every body - We have  
another large <sup>span</sup> house in the centre of the garden  
which will be divided in the middle for plants  
requiring varying degrees of heat & moisture -  
There will there a new & as complete an arrange-  
ment of medical plants in the open air as we  
can procure - and numerous illustrations of  
most of the important natural orders, in addition  
to which I intend to have a fine collection of  
American plants - which I think we shall be  
enabled to grow - as I have secured an unlim-  
ited supply of water - what delicate specimens uncul-  
tivated in the open air - may be profitably turned  
to account - by experimental beds - on the effects  
of soil upon plants &c &c - I do not intend  
to have any glass flower beds - We shall build  
this spring a new room for the spirituous liquors  
which will be provided with ground glass for  
their amusement & instruction & can place  
and other specimens - I have thus entered into

P.P. heads - the reason is obvious - that these parasites  
having no locom. powers - the food must be brought to them  
When I was at Symonds - I went one morn. at extreme  
low water to the beach - but upon or rather a ramp  
also ledge of rocks - with me lay in the Bristol Channel.  
& the other in a large shallow pool of varying from 1 to  
2 ft. in depth. In this shallow pool the *Chondrus*  
*crispus* was growing in extreme luxuriance whilst on the  
edge of rocks exposed to the beating waves of the  
Channel - the fronds were very narrow not more than  
1/2 of the width of the others - but were completely coated  
with zoophytes to the very tips - whilst there was not  
one to be seen on the broad fronds - I am now going  
to send a letter to the Dr. Museum to consult some old  
fish. & gardeners & have a chat with Doanck - and his  
apostle Mr. Carruthers - a very able & estimable man -  
Mr. C. had at one time a botanical clasp at Exeter - is  
perfectly charmed with your Manual of Botany which was  
of the greatest service to him - & which has got to be  
the most perfect book of the kind in the English Language  
I must now conclude - as I have filled my paper - My  
dear son is somewhat better - but I fear is never likely to  
resume his professional duties. It is a sad termination to  
a life of great labour & great promise - My daughters are  
quite well & write much to you & Ann Gray

Ever yours most affectly  
N.D. Ward

Spotheveries' Hall, Blackfriars,

London  
E.C.

My dear Gray

22-Jan 1863.

The son of a very dear old friend  
of mine - W. G. Snel - who has been living at  
Boston for 12 years - & who came here 6 months ago  
on a visit to his father is about to revisit Boston  
for a short time - and I take the opportunity of writing  
to him for the double purpose of introducing him to you  
& of your making use of him to bring over to me  
any contributions of any value for the Chelsea Garden  
I should the weather be favourable for their description  
I have to thank you much for your review of the life  
of DeCandolle - I am quite delighted with it. I dined  
with the old man when he visited London in 1856, at  
the time Lord and the son called on me in Whitechapel  
and I called on Geneva - I must get the book sent  
whenever may suit interest and I hope of men who have  
done much in chemistry & vegetable physiology and  
whose names are familiar to most English words.  
I have lately been reading a review of plants in N.  
America in Macmillan's Journal in which the Editor



speaks in the highest terms of Boston and its  
celebrity & gives a glowing account of the proceeding  
on Cap day in your University. The writer is evi-  
dently no Establianist - or I should have seen your name  
among the Professors that adorn your great School.

The Chelsea Garden is now occupying much of my  
attention. I think I have mentioned all I intend to do  
but I am certain you can give me some valuable  
hints. The primary object we have in view is the  
classification of the medical students which will  
be effected by the fixed col<sup>r</sup> of medical plants  
such as primrose. & by illustrations of the most  
important of the natural order. The physiology  
of botany will not be neglected - as far as can  
be carried out - the connection of botany with geology.  
In the remaining portions of the garden - it will be  
an endeavor to encourage a more simple & natural  
taste than at present prevails - where color only  
is the desideratum - "primis in crede color"  
will be my motto. - Can help me - We want  
at Apoth. Hall - a hundred weight of *Sarracenia*.  
Can any of your druggists furnish us - & at what  
price? - Our water has been very open  
and very stormy - innumerable oaks have occurred  
on our coast. Not a little damage has taken place  
on land. The underwriters wish to never speculate

in winter - unless the ground be covered with snow.  
The mildness - however of this season suits me  
my bronchitis - and the wind is kept out by the  
respirator - My long winter <sup>ago</sup> enabled me to  
get on with the objects of Nature - which are now  
assuming something like a definite value - is indi-  
cating most unmistakably - varying climatic conditions.  
I presume - if we wanted to know the respective  
amounts of moisture in Braith & Westmoreland -  
the size & luxuriance of the mosses growing on the  
stone walls of the respective places would at once  
tell us - that between 20 & 30 inches of rain fell  
at Braith and 120 - in Westm. - The amount of solar  
light again - not only by the colour of the leaves - but the  
state of growth of ferns & other plants - but why dwell  
upon these things to you - who know far more than I do  
on this subject. - I have lately rec<sup>d</sup> from D. Mueller -  
some fine specimens of the *Alga* (rough dried) from  
Northern Port - Victoria - which point out a striking  
difference from a similar col<sup>r</sup> rec<sup>d</sup> from him 12 months  
ago - from Port Phillip Heads - in the far greater size  
& abundance of *Sertularias* & other zoophytes to be found  
in the former - than in the latter locality. As far as  
I know about the matter - there is less disturbance  
a more disturbed state of the water at N. Port - than at







On the occasion of his visit to England - after  
months since - he found her a Widow with three  
Children. His old love rekindled, & they married.  
Mr. S. must know nothing of it save by  
probability. I don't know how long he remained at  
Boston & when he returns - it will I am sure  
be to take charge of any plants you may have &  
in your power to send to Ch. Garden. By the way  
may as well send you a spec. of the winter we have  
just to our friends & to Bostonick. - as follows.

The Soc. of Apoth. Botanic garden at Chelsea.

The Members of the Soc. of Apoth. from the earliest period  
of its history, have taken a very lively interest in the pursuit  
of Botanical knowledge.

Shortly after their incorporation in the reign of Ch. II.  
they found them engaged in periodical botanical excursions  
in the neighbourhood of London; so early as the year 1682, the Society  
of Herbalists had become an established annual custom.

Prof. Vossius the learned Editor of Gerard's Herbarium and an  
esteemed member of the Soc. has left a most graphic account  
of several of these early excursions, proving not only the devotion  
to Botany of the Soc. in its earlier stages, but the extent to  
which that devotion was shared by the Society at large.

The interest, thus awakened, all most have strengthened  
with time for within half a century of their incorporation, the  
Soc. were enabled to secure for their members increased opportunities  
for the prosecution of their good study, in a Botanic Garden  
of their own & the death of Mr. S. has created a deeply  
grieved by the loss of the Society for the promotion of early Botany  
of the garden were provided by the members in their private  
resources.

It was under these circumstances that, in the year 1673, the  
Soc. of Apoth. became possessors of between 3 & 4 acres of land  
on the banks of the Thames at Chelsea & a very considerable expense  
was incurred the ground, & adapted it for the purposes of a Bot. Gard.  
Such was the origin of the Soc. Garden at Chelsea, which was the  
first garden in the neighbourhood of the metropolis established for a public  
purpose, & exclusively devoted to the advancement of Botanical Science.

For nearly two centuries have the Soc. maintained this  
Garden at their great charge, & frequently under circum-  
stances involving considerable personal sacrifices on the  
part of the individual Members; but on no occasion on  
which a stupendous effort has been necessary to preserve the  
Garden for the purposes to which it was originally designed,  
have the Members of the Soc. ever found deficient in the  
liberality & zeal which characterized their good predecessors.

The Soc. has sought & secured their advancement in the science which  
they have been enabled to extend the general advantage of Bot. Science  
to more extent on the opportunities afforded by successive generations  
of their students for the prosecution of this branch of their professional  
studies.

Not many there been wanting great & good men, who belonging to  
their own body, who have encouraged & aided the Soc. in their  
efforts to extend the benefits of Botanical knowledge. In the  
year 1721, in London were at that time Soc. of Apoth. & College of Physicians  
who sat together the last time of the last garden lease to the Soc. & con-  
sidered the garden as the property of the Soc. & that the Soc.  
might not be disturbed hereafter be continued as a Bot. Garden  
for the Soc. & encouraging & assisting the Soc. to support the same &  
thereby for the benefit of the power, wisdom & glory of God in the  
world's creation." - In some few years past the Soc.  
have had to contend with numerous difficulties in their efforts  
to preserve the garden in full efficiency. By the neglect of the  
expenses of the garden you have professed nearly for the resources  
of the Soc. & on the other the increase of buildings & improvements  
in the neighbourhood, & the threatened sword of the plague, which  
have created a feeling of discomposure & even of doubt as to the  
course which the Soc. should pursue with reference to its continued  
maintenance. - When the Executive of the Soc. have been  
reflected, how much benefit the garden had conferred when they were

assistance afforded us - In August - I hope to be  
present at the British Assoc. meeting at Newcastle  
where if I am well enough - I hope to read three  
papers - one on the Chelsea Garden - in which I shall  
give the early botanical history of our Soc. of Apothecaries  
- a second - on the results & conclusions of a forty  
years vaccination - and the third - On the effects of  
Nature & their teachings - chiefly with reference to  
mosses & seaweeds - In the last - I intend to take  
the opportunity of explaining the marvellous diffusion  
law - more especially as regards carbonic acid - I am  
induced to do this from the lamentable ignorance which  
exists among otherwise well educated men - I am afraid  
they are of flaws - which influence not the well being  
only - but the very existence of animated nature -  
Do not think that in earliness of Bishop's - there  
are half a dozen - who know anything of what is going  
on in the world round around them -

Do not think me in such matters - I must now wind  
up - with telling you - that we are all - thank God -  
in possession of good health - Stephen is progressing  
not so vigorously - and so is Matt - My little grand-  
child Ada - is a very lovable child - although perhaps  
a little too self-indulgent - Her mother however - rather spoils her  
she will - as she gets older - improve by so much with other children  
- He has kindly on his last birthday wished to me & Mr Gray  
& believed in me - Your affec<sup>d</sup> friend  
V. D. Ward

Apothecaries' Hall, Blackfriars,  
London  
E.C.

My dear Gray  
6 June 1863.  
I did not begin - (as I ought) my  
letter with apologies for not having written  
earlier - but tell you - how grateful I was at not  
being able to welcome your friend Prof. Bond in  
the way in which he ought to have been received.  
He wrote to me on his arrival at Liverpool - to  
which I replied by return of post - which letter I had  
returned to me from the S. P. O. - and I heard no  
more of him until Thursday last - when he called at  
Clapham during my absence - I was fortunately enabled  
to spend a portion of an hour with him at this lodging  
the same afternoon - I was greatly pleased with his progress  
& acquaintance - & hope that when he next visits London  
he will take up his abode with me - as a house is  
most acceptable female parts of London - I am moreover  
have living within a mile of me - a most accurate  
philosophical observer - Mr. Burgess - who has recently  
been employed, in conjunction with Dr. Miller, in  
observations on some of the fixed stars - with the



firmament spectrum. - Then observations have been  
made before the D. Soc. - I mention these things  
to prove to your friend that he would not lose his  
time in coming to Clapham. - I have just received  
I read with much interest - your paper on the plants  
of the rocky mountains - Thank you heartily for it -  
Are the species of these mountains to be preserved?  
I should much like to have a set of them - as I have  
a large coll. of European, E. Indian, & Cape - &  
Antillean species - I should imagine however -  
that this tribe would not be so numerous - as in  
Switzerland - or our own Alps. - You will be  
pleased to hear that your plants sent by Prof. Bond  
are doing well - My new house - answers my wife  
as far as it has been tried - We have a fine moss  
growth upon rocks which the water falls into a  
basin - with ferns & aquatic plants - This house is a  
regular closed case in cold & ungenial weather -  
but on the temp. rises too high - we have the  
advantage of lowering it - through the intervention of  
wire gauze in front - and two windows which can  
be opened in the back. - The appearance of the  
induced vegetation is very refreshing - I have  
been much occupied with variegated foliage - You have  
seen - I suppose my letter in the Times - on the subject.

It has been I believe of use - in removing or allaying  
some of the morbid dread which pervaded all  
clases - a dread which was not altogether unfounded  
in consequence of the slow way in which vaccination  
has been too often performed. One of my oldest friends  
aged 65 - has died from smallpox - and not <sup>far</sup> <sup>from</sup> a hundred  
more - where I have revaccinated during the last month  
seven or eight adults would have been quite safe  
without it. - My son Walter - was at Shillington two or  
three weeks ago - staying at the Lake House - the  
Landlord of which - had cut out from the Times &  
pasted on the fly leaf of a cooking book, a letter!!  
He & I hope to leave here on the first Monday in  
July for Dublin - to stay a week or two with Harvy  
and then accompany him & his wife to the Great  
concourse - We shall doubtless enjoy our visit greatly  
and still more - could you & Mr. Gyles of the party.  
The object of my visit will be to obtain plants for  
the Chelsea Garden from the two Dublin gardens  
Fitzherbert - I sent you just from the Male - a dozen  
fine *Chelidonium* circulars - and you would greatly oblige  
me by distributing them to such botanists as take an  
interest in the matter & would kindly help us - We  
shall be able - I hope - soon to repay in kind any

My dear Gray

The Dunes - Chase Oct. 22. 26

It is most kind of you to give me the great pleasure of reading the localities of D. Parry as well as your own. His last observation on the rocks & certain plants I suspect of value in general have greatly increased the interest of the collections, and Portland - when the weather gets milder & allows me to be out in the evening - to lay both his species & his plants before the lens - & the numbers of which will I am sure be delighted with them. I should like much to have a complete set of the papers from Sullivan - if such a set is to be procured - so I should like to add them to some of my alpine sheets. Any information which could be given re: their elevation & with what phanerogams plants they are associated would be most welcome, so I should like to make erroneous impressions in your sheets. Since I last wrote you I have been busily employed in looking over my herbarium - discarding defective specimens & rearranging nearly the whole. Thus my *Alpinaria* & *Leontodon* plants - the alpine plants of the mountains I have already sent to London.



plants - with those of the *Liklikin Nemalga*  
& *Phet* - the plants of Sweden Norway & the  
other of the Arctic regions - no from separate  
collections - whilst instructive specimens - either  
as regards the physiological characters - or structural  
are set aside for the edification of my Daughters  
& young friends. I have to thank you much  
for your offer of assistance in the exchange of  
'Cartes'. I enclose you ten of mine, & shall be  
very glad to procure of some of your botanical  
specialities in return... I leave the matter in  
your hands - At some future occasion I may have  
to procure from the Cartes of some of your  
distinguished writers - there of course can only  
be procured by purchase - at present I know  
not whether they are to be procured in London  
or not - Will you kindly ask your personal  
botanical friends to follow by example write  
their names at the bottom of their cartes -  
Annie is absent from home - & Maria Mary  
are on a visit at Plymouth at Capt & Mrs  
Ballards. I hope to spend a week with them

the beg. of next month, when the spring flowers  
will be showing themselves - I have two rather  
little ones now in my garden - *Silla bifida*  
*S. sibirica* - *Laviojan* & *acum.* - *Sordusaria* & *swida*  
*Purpurea* - *Crocuses* & *Shonids* in abundance -  
Stephen was sent for 10 days ago by Telegram to  
Liverpool - the one of the first civil Engineers  
in that city - He spent 2 nights & one day with  
his father - who sent him 5000 gr since an  
extract from one of the Liverpool papers - stating  
that their resp. Mother was at night had been  
in great danger from marasmus - but that thanks  
to the care & advice of two or three of their  
leading Physicians - assisted by the eminent  
Physician - Dr. J. H. Ward of London - they were  
happy to inform their readers that M<sup>r</sup> P was  
convalescent - I enclose Stephen rec<sup>d</sup>. a letter  
of thanks from the patient with a cheque for  
150 Guineas - I am happy to tell you that  
with no letter & that my Daughters are all well  
with the love & best wishes & us all to yourself  
L<sup>th</sup> - Gray - ever yours affect<sup>ly</sup>  
N. D. Ward

[29 July 1864]

Lincoln next week - & thence to Dublin  
 In the autumn - D. & W. Carey are going to  
 the Scotch Highlands - in their way to New  
 London. - My garden is really charming - Our  
 rustic seat all the bottom is riched over with  
 a canopy of *Rosa canina*, intermixed with  
 which is a fine var. of *Calyptesia sepium*  
 (said to be from N. America). The flowers are  
 half as much larger as ours - & most lovely  
 they are. Might I dare to ask you to send me  
 this autumn or in the spring - some of your  
<sup>latter forms</sup> *C. canadensis* - *C. canadensis* - I think - now  
 ended your *C. canadensis* & explanation -  
 Both of these you kindly sent me on a former  
 occasion - but I did not do so enough  
 imitate their natural conditions - Would  
 you kindly give me an idea of the amount of  
<sup>& perhaps</sup> *can they* obtain in your woods? - When shall  
 I know if Charles send you some of his  
 duplicates - I was quite vexed to find the other  
 day that W. H. had as yet sent you nothing  
 (He has wrote in love heart wishes to you  
 & M. Gray - Ever your affect. friend  
 W. D. Ward)

My dear Gray

The Deems - Charles  
 29. July 1864

I have a great deal to communicate  
 & letter to you with thanks - & have just  
 recd the cable of Mr. Estlin with the pleasing  
 intelligence that I may hope to see him this  
 autumn. - I expect to be home in the  
 month of August - but after that time have  
 no arrangement - Would that you & M. Gray  
 could accompany your friends to England  
 that glad should we be to welcome you  
 both once more at Clapham - Our  
 journey this year will most prob. be  
 to Scotland - visiting chiefly those places  
 to which we can be conveyed by steam -  
 which will take us - to the Isle of Arran -  
 several of the lakes - Shaffa & Lorne det.



My companion while in China. The  
one fond of - and no mean proficient in -  
the other directing her attention to  
English Poetry - Both will hope derive  
great satisfaction & instruction from their excursion  
and I too expect no small addition to my  
natural objects - My garden is getting every  
year more attractive from the increasing  
growth & beauty of the trees and shrubs - the  
Chamomile Potpourri and several Japanese  
shrubs have wintered without injury as have  
likewise Camellia japonica and Azalea  
arvensis - the latter very beautiful - Many of the  
red rare plants I have excluded from ordinary  
gardens by the present cultivated taste for  
Don Quixotes & Calceolarias &c - have been  
gladdening the eyes of my lovers of bloom  
I am so glad to be pleased with the  
recreation of Chelsea Garden - the three largest  
houses are quite charming - and I have just  
ordered a couple of sea-going cases of two

closed cases (of ornamental character) - one  
of them being double - This latter is in  
imitation of one very large house constructed  
by Mr Bewley of Dublin, in which the temp.  
is regulated - being higher in winter & colder  
in summer - And in the single closed case  
there has not been much rain - since the temp  
was opened - but the therm - has been 12  
degrees lower at noon - Both the cases  
have proc'd the same aspects - & are plants  
with the same plants - so some useful  
results may be expected - We have sown in  
the sea-going cases - seeds of *Skimmia japonica*  
and of several rare Conifers - And there are  
coming up & look most promising -  
We have just rec'd a letter from Mr  
Davy - He writes that the D. has been again  
troubled with his cough - but not to the same  
extent as last year - D. & Mr. Nothor are  
with them - & they have been visiting at  
the Seven Churches Wicklow - They proceed to

of Gleacrae - the latter one of the wildest  
in all Scotland - On my last visit to Scott.  
myself and two young foolish persons  
lost their lives in this pass - being frozen to  
death in the month of Sept. - We wound up  
our trip with a most pleasant week in Edinb.  
especially in the old town - so many scenes & places  
which have been immortalised by Scott.  
We spent a very pleasant day with Balfour,  
and his charming son. The botanic garden  
has been suffering much from drought - which has  
prevailed this year to a extent not paralleled  
during the last 50 years. - I thank you much for  
your offer of plants - but I must beg you not  
to send me a single specimen until you have  
obtained a better set of things than those most  
foolishly sent you last. - Nath. is now with a  
medical friend in the New Forest - There is, I fear  
little hope that he will ever be able to resume  
his duties. He is however very happy & contented in his  
present abode. - I have had with me some one staying  
was one of his brother pupils at the London Hospital  
where it is his power to make him comfortable.  
I must now conclude with the best of wishes  
from all to you & Mrs. Gray & believe me,  
Ever your affect. friend  
W. B. Ward

My dear Gray

The Scots Chronicle  
Oct. 9. 18.

I have just recd. & beg to thank  
you for your most kind letter. Like you - I  
have been enjoying my annual holiday - this year  
in Scotland - in company with my two youngest  
daughters - <sup>and my eldest son</sup> - The weather was most propitious  
for such a journey - We went and returned & water  
travelling altogether about 1200 miles (I mean  
but - some of us being in the boat etc. - I saw  
little Will's father and he attributed his illness  
to sea sickness - but to the shell eggs -  
Our first week was spent most pleasantly in the  
Isle of Arran most interesting in its geological  
features - & the wildness & beauty of its scenery.  
which is not a little a pointer of the mildness of  
the climate - In which myrtles had been growing most  
luxuriantly in the open air requiring no protection  
during the winter. - From Arran we steamed up  
the Clyde to Greenock thence down the same river  
through the Firth of Clyde to Greenock & Glasgow



which other place we obtained at my moderate elevation the finest & most extensive views of the numerous mountain ranges which give to Scotland its most striking & characteristic features.

"If mountains are of our celebrated writers thus speaks" "Of all the sights that nature offers to the eye & mind of man, mountains have always stirred my strongest feelings. I have seen the ocean when it was turned up from the bottom of the pest, and noon was like night with the conflict of the billows and the storm that tore & scattered them in mist & foam across the sky. I have seen the desert rise around me & calm in the midst of thousands uttering cries of horror and paralyzed fear, have contemplated the sand pillars coming like the advance of some gigantic cit. of conflagration flying across the wilderness, & seen columns glowing with intense fire & overblast death. The sky exulted with glory. The earth a furnace. - But with me the mountain - in tempest or in calm, whether the throne of the thunder, or with the evening sun painting its dells and declivities in colossal light in heaven - has been the source of the most sublime sensations. Here stands magnitude giving the exultant in preparation of a power above

man - grandeur that defies decay - antiquity that tells of ages unnumbered. Beauty that the touch of time makes not more beautiful - use, exhaustless for the service of man - strength, imperishable as the globe - the monument of eternity - the truest emblem of that unchangeable, irresistible Majesty of whom and for whom all things were made." - - -

The finest view we obtained of the Scotch mountains was at Oban - in the neighbourhood of which place - at moderate elevations - we have seen a most continuous amphitheatre of mountain ranges - the diameter of which cannot be less than a hundred miles. The season of the year & the fine weather were most favourable to the full appreciation and enjoyment of this view. whilst water - the very life & soul of every landscape was abundantly present in the shape of the glorious sea. I need not mention the sea - the impressive effect of the deep can't & various other lights - nor the inimitable succession of dipolone views - always beautiful - produced by the alterations of cloud & sunshine. From Oban we went through (on the top of a coach) those of the finest papers in Scotland - viz. that of Ave &

The immense & valuable col<sup>l</sup>. St. Row-  
is from its extent, utterly unavailing  
for many purposes of great practical utility,  
and is scarce ever consulted excepting by  
Authors. - I sent enough of this - those sent  
you a number of plants some time back and  
I know that he kept all that could be spared  
certainly not so many as I wished - but the  
fact is that the garden had been so long in a  
state of decayance that we have, as yet, but  
few duplicates. I trust that next year  
we may be able to give you a larger better  
supply. Of all your well - 2 poor old daughters  
and 3 sisters - Henry, 3 & 4 live in a Heidelberg  
with one of the Professors - who married the  
daughter of one of my old patients. I do not  
know whether there is much of botanical  
interest in the adjoining Black Forest - if I  
do not meet of the new - I am sure to see some  
old friends with new faces. My little garden is  
now a complete wilderness - you would hardly know  
it again - We all hope soon more to see you and  
Mr. Gray - Do try to come - With our united best  
wishes I have to sign both - Believe me ever  
Yours affly. W.D. Ward

My dear Gray  
The Penns - 54. 12. 30  
I cannot allow the red clouds to close  
without in the same way all - wishing you and  
all that is dear to you very many happy returns  
of this season. May God grant that, ere the  
close of the next year - peace may reign in  
your land. I would so much more willingly  
see you early & well employed - than in  
exploring the miserable riches - & rendering good  
the resources of the Rocky Mountain and other  
districts - than in acts of mutual destruction.  
- such a consummation is earnestly to be desired  
rather than it is to be brought about. I know not  
that that you will not be disappointed in the  
one great result you expected at the beg<sup>g</sup> of the war  
viz - the abolition of slavery - the dark spot in  
our institutions. How is your grand  
museum & herbarium building going on? How  
delighted I should be to pay it - and you - a  
visit - but I am now too old to indulge such  
an idea - but must content myself with observing  
in my own room - I am sorry to believe that  
we have had a sad Thomas time. Poor Nath<sup>l</sup>.  
has had two or three attacks of partial paralysis



and is - I fear - utterly excluded from his pro-  
fession - in which he was one of the shining  
lights - A very bad practice prevails in some  
Hospitals - & probably in many of ours  
likewise - The Assistant Surgeons have all  
the hard work of the hospitals to do - without  
the slightest remuneration in any way - and if  
as was the case with a few - he has a peculiar  
aptitude for his profession his conscientiousness in  
the discharge of his duty - he gets double the  
number of out-patients to attend to - and has  
moreover a number of operations in the hospital  
in cases which are sent up for his expert  
care by County Surgeons - He has repeatedly  
had in one days visit - to see nearly 200  
out-patients & to perform 3 or 4 operations.  
This went on for eleven years - no wonder  
he broke down - His - however - mother of great  
consolation to reflect that he has fallen a victim  
to an overtaxed sense of duty - and not - as  
is too often the case - to vicious or immoral  
habits - I have never had such hard

work thrust upon him - and is in a fair way  
of obtaining a high position as an M.D. I  
think I mentioned to you in my last - that he  
had paid a proportion of £3000 as a reward  
for which he had rec'd. 150 guineas - I am  
going on with my "Expects" - and I am quite  
sure I am doing some good - I believe that  
all local collections should be arranged after  
a fashion - Thus any inhabitant of a country  
town might see the entire vegetation of the  
surrounding woods or commons - or hedge-  
banks if a chance might be enabled to form  
a probable guess at the character of a given  
locality by the greater or less luxuriance of  
the myrtles &c. growing on the taller rocks -  
detoured moreover - in many cases - enabled  
to obtain some reliable information as to the  
growth of crops - fruits &c. from the periods  
of the flowering & fruiting of the wild vegetation  
upon all these points I mean - I need not  
expatiate to you - who know so much more  
than I - the practical bearings of this question

slavery however will no longer be abtst upon your  
 eschewen. I hope you will be enabled in your next  
 to give me hopeful accounts of general reconciliation.  
 As far as I have seen this town is a very desirable  
 place of abode for persons of limited means - but we get  
 fond of residing in literary pursuits - the amusements  
 chiefly musical are within the reach of every body. the  
 chalice at Mannheim - one of the first towns in Germany as  
 regards the excellence of its Opera - is 25. where it had  
 we pay 10-5 - and the house for more reasonable from 5 to  
 10 or 12. In the grounds of the Castle a Russian band  
 out play from 3 to 10 - with an interval of an hour from  
 7 to 9 - and this is open to all who choose to enjoy it  
 sub Dio & those who do not have admission to a fine  
 room at the rate of 2 ft. Lead - The garden is the  
 instrumental music is frequently occupied in listening about  
 the well wooded Castle ground - where the Nightingale  
 in the deepest covert has

times has nocturnal note

The education for boys is not complete most  
 economical - My brother there was who got the Lyceum  
 and are taught English - French - Latin - History &c  
 obtain these advantages at a cost of L. 3. ft. ann. each.  
 I have no hesitation in expressing my opinion that these  
 three boys - would beat any three of our Eton boys of the  
 same ages - But I must conclude & hoping again to  
 have your forgiveness & with Ann & Charles best love  
 to you & Mr. Gray - Believe me your  
 Your affect. friend  
 W. D. Wood



Fig. 1. 1840

ETHELINGTON, GLEBE, S.

1840

My dear Gray

The Arlage  
 Heidelberg  
 24 Sept 1845.

I will make no apologies for a long  
 silence but I thought upon your mercy. My  
 excuse is the state of health which has been  
 for some time past most unwell. Three months ago  
 I had a severe attack of Bronchitis - confining me to the  
 house for a month - subsequently to which I had three  
 or four more severe attacks with some of the members  
 of our governing body at the time on the subject of  
 Chelsea Garden. By the bye the constitution of some  
 of our Govt. bodies is most defective - seriously  
 alone settles the point. I can imagine what has  
 been - who have not been too well taught in their early  
 youth set themselves against an expenditure of money.



Provia did I urge upon them the glorious example of the  
liberality shown by you in giving to your country your  
grand collection - and I gave my own men in finding  
a fitting habitat for them - The half a dozen Cacti to  
right before - gained the day besides the minor ones of  
which I have already spoken - and then completely prostrated  
me - and I have been compelled to come here to recruit  
John & Charlotte are with me - Ellen stays with me  
of the Minicott Professor whose wife I brought into  
the world - and where we have every English comfort, which  
is not always attainable in a German house - I am now  
thank God, better - and able to enjoy botanical rambles.  
Although Heidelberg is not famous for the richness or  
variety of its Flora - nine tenths of the species being  
natives of Great Britain - yet some of our rarest plants  
are here most abundant - *Salix pratensis* is the great  
ornament of all grassy slopes - *Bermy barba* - *Lichnis*  
*Nivaria* abound in the woods - as do *Salix rubra* &  
*S. virens* - *Prunella vulgaris* is abundant - & while

of species not indigenous within - the most notable are  
*Equis sagittalis* & *Coronilla varia* occupying the places  
which in England are filled with *Aspidocrepis* & *Asper*  
*Spirea Arvensis* v. *S. Ulmaria* - *Desfontainia* *Castanea*  
*Stachys recta* - *Euphorbia stricta* & others. But I need  
not further enlarge on this - as doubtless you know far  
more of the Flora of Heidelberg than I do - The season here,  
as elsewhere - has been an exceptional one - I'll rich believe  
me - that winter ended with March - & summer commenced  
in April - since we have been here now 3 weeks the heat  
has been greatly above the average - and all vegetation much  
forwarder than usual - These fireflies creep on the  
last board - they do not usually make their appearance  
until the 1st - I suppose you have heard that Dr. Lawry  
was compelled to go to Treachon St. Jovannese for the  
benefit of his health. The last news I heard of him  
through Mother was not favorable - I am expecting daily  
another from him - and I trust it may give better accounts.  
I have heard little nothing of American news of late - I  
know of nothing which excited more horror & detestation  
in England than the murder of Lewis - One can hardly  
conceive the Southernness as a body to have concurred at  
it - as it is most certain they have nothing to gain but  
much to lose by this sad event - The accounts which I  
have heard are so conflicting that it is almost impossible  
to grasp at the truth - One says that everyone concerned in  
this horrid affair - whatever their condition might be  
brought to indignant punishment - The question of

lately been covering the feet of one of  
up walls with an almost perpendicular bed of  
loam - flat & supported by galvanised wire  
& iron rods - This bed projects from the wall  
about a foot at its base - & about 4 inches  
at the upper part. This bed is intended  
chiefly for the cultivation of alpine plants  
small bulbs &c. & there is space enough  
to accommodate a thousand species of alpine  
vegetation - the growing of numerous mosses  
& scale ferns - whose respective worth I can  
easily supply - It is already looking well  
with the most attractive in the spring, with  
the hundreds of flowers of *Crocus* - *Leucojum*  
*Silla* - *Galanthus* - *Primulas* - *Scilla* &c. &c.  
As it is close to the pond it can always be  
kept well watered in dry weather. But enough  
of this - You will be glad to hear that the  
Earl of Malmesbury is favorable & that  
Mother is now recovering from the severe attack  
of rheumatic fever - which he had after the  
death of his dear Father. He has quite  
in love & best wishes for many long happy  
illnesses & God bless you & Mrs. Gray  
and - Your aff. friend N. V. Ward

My dear Gray

The Deans -

Chine - 55.11.24.

We are quite longing to hear  
from you again - so long a time having  
elapsed since we had a letter - We trust,  
however, that no news is good news &  
that you & Mrs. Gray are quite well -  
I wish it were in my power to give you a  
favorable account of your dear Son Nathaniel -  
He appeared in the Michael 3 or 4 weeks  
to be gradually gaining ground - but still  
bodily under the care of a Physician in the  
New Dues - who had been a brother pupil  
with him at the London Hospital - but he  
lately had a severe fit - from which he  
has only partially rallied and there is too  
much reason to fear that his brain is  
irreversibly damaged. We have now no



hoped his ever being himself again.  
I am thankful to tell you that my health continues  
pretty good & a good man (in his 75<sup>th</sup> year) & that the  
rest of my family are all in good health. My trip  
to Meriden in the spring was of great service  
to Ann & Charlotte as well as to me - and  
my garden & herbaceous were enriched with many  
interesting plants: inde<sup>p</sup>. of which, I obtained  
the photographs & autographs of all the eminent  
professors of the University - among them Huxley  
& Kirchhoff - of Solar Astronomy. Our botanica  
rambles led us into most beautiful scenery &  
we had the good fortune to be accompanied  
on all occasions by the daughter of an English  
Clergyman who with her sister had been  
living at Meriden for above 12 years & we under-  
stood the language of the country - by which  
we obtained much interesting information from  
the peasants which we should have lost but  
for her company. On even<sup>g</sup>s were frequently  
spent in the Castle grounds - listening to a

good band & in the intervals between the  
pieces - strolling into the shady woods to be  
regaled with the still sweeter song of the  
Nightingale - and the brilliancy of the Fire-  
flies - which made their appearance this  
year (owing I suppose to the great heat) in the  
last week of May - three weeks earlier than  
ordinary. We are in great trouble at our  
National Blackpissians which the Apothecaries  
have held for more than two centuries. It  
is fully expected that we shall be turned  
out by the Chatham & Dover Railway who  
commenced their concern on a Capital of  
£750,000 which has since been extended to  
near nine millions. At present we know  
not where to go - and to add to our distress  
I have just heard that the Chelsea Garden is to  
be swept clean away by the new River  
Embankment scheme. So my time is pretty  
well taken up. - I have - however, a little  
leisure for my garden & garb - small as it is,  
affords me abundant amusement - I have

I have but little to tell you. My greatest  
delight is to receive your charming reviews.  
to say nothing of your box of plants - which  
arrived here at Almas - but which I could  
not receive until nearly a month after its  
arrival in consequence of the Capt. of the  
rebel having placed in the hold of the ship.  
With most of the plants - this will not I hope  
endanger their growth - but I fear much for  
the *Lig. dendroideum* - all the seeds having  
decayed - & the entire mass of roots & tubers  
being very dry - The late Mr. Parry of Horti-  
cultural Society had a large fine patch of this  
lovel plant in the open air at Witleton. I was  
told that it was a dwarf like from the S.  
I think I mentioned in my last that I had made  
a wall-bed at the bottom of my garden & many of  
my pots & calceolarias were about 30 ft. square  
as thus covered a sort of place for a large  
plants &c. - The thickness of the bed at bottom is  
one foot - diminish to 6 inches at top. It is already  
very lovely with *Leucogen neurn* - *Gutierrezia* -  
*Calla palustris* & *Cliffia de lae*. May you I hope  
write a great ornament. But I must conclude  
with the best love of all to you & Mr. Gray.  
Ever & yours most affectionately  
W. W.

Said not you to join our good friends  
except in May - but will not many of friends  
W. W. Gray is - for as long as I live - there  
is Mr. Gray  
15.2.15.

You might have heard from me  
ere this - but my time & thoughts have been  
most principally occupied with the fatal  
illness of dear son Nath. - You  
know - but possibly have forgotten that  
he had broken down once & twice in the  
execution of his various duties at the  
London Hospital where his regular work  
consisted of two weekly visits to the  
theatre - on each of which he had to  
prescribe for 150 or 160 patients - in oc-  
casion of which he was repeatedly called  
up in the night & to ascertain how in  
cases of emergency. His work he had  
performed gratuitously for 13 years -  
About 2 years since symptoms of paralysis  
were noticed that extent that he was  
compelled to relinquish his profession



and was until the last three months, under  
the roof of one of his dear Brother pupils Dr.  
Preshers - who lived in the heart of the New  
Forest and from whom he recd. every kind  
attention and improved so much that there  
was really some hope that he might have  
been enabled to have spent the remainder  
of his days in the bosom of his family &  
all that he was most deeply loved. But  
it was otherwise ordained - and doubtless  
for his good. - It has been a sore trial  
to us - but - God's will be done. - He was  
beloved and is lamented, by all who knew  
him. - He died at Salisbury on Saturday last -

On Sunday a very dear old friend - Professor  
Proude died from Bronchitis & Catarrh of the  
lungs greatly. He and I were in the service  
of the Col. of Artillery & had sat at the  
same table every Sunday morn. for more than  
a dozen years. He - as you know - was a  
great Chemist and I used to obtain from  
him the solution of all my chemical doubts -

You have doubtless heard we think that our  
dear friend Henry has had a return of illness  
such an occurrence is much to be dreaded in  
his weak condition - Our last accounts  
however - were more favourable. - When I  
have not seen since his illness. He writes he  
works that he is quite overwhelmed with  
work - both of his dear Father's & his own.  
Little Willie his son - spent a fortnight  
with us at Athens. He is a very nice lad  
but does not seem to take much to study.  
We had a most pleasant visit from two  
of your Countrymen - Dr. Green and Wilder  
I was pleased to hear from the latter. From his  
personal knowledge that many of the persons  
that it may be said had been most abominably  
treated by the Confederates - Dr. Green as you know  
is an old favourite of mine - and we are  
quite as much pleased with Dr. W. whose  
varied acquirements & gentlemanly manner  
renders his company most delightful. We are  
expecting to see them again in a week or two  
on their return from Paris. - Of botanical news -

subject in which I am much interested. in  
the applic<sup>n</sup> of the clove care to the relief of  
the poor in smoky towns & localities - I am  
quite certain that much might be done  
if some of the gross darkness which covers the  
people could be removed. Several instances  
have come under my cognizance - where a love  
of plants & gardens & a clove care has been  
the means & occasion of raising the poor  
to competence. I wish I knew Mr. Peabody  
that I might persuade him to insist on the  
means of cultivating plants either in the open  
air or otherwise - in the buildings he is so  
magnificently providing for the poor of London.  
Mr. Peabody are tolerably well - I am as now  
better but has been troubled with indigestion.  
Stomach & Cough the latter I believe arising from  
the miserable wet & cold weather we have had.  
Good night for your dear heart.

With our united love to Mrs. W. & J.  
Believe me ever  
Your affect. friend  
W. D. Ward

D. & G.

Ward

Lebridge Wells  
20 Oct. 1866.

My dear Gray

I have in the first place to  
thank you most warmly for your notice  
of our dear friend. My son the best of us  
is yet appeared. So much cannot be  
said in his favor - I had known him  
most intimately for years. But yet more  
and had the great satisfaction of being in  
for 24 hours - 2 days before his death.  
I have seen many a dying face - but never  
one in which the peace of God alone  
was bright in the countenance.  
He alone smiled while around him wept.  
His pain had been one of great trouble and  
distress to us all - first the death of his wife  
then of a niece - leaving 7 children - followed  
by the death of Mary - and a most severe  
fall but fatal attack of congestion of the  
lungs in Stephen - keeping him nearly 6  
months out of practice - which he has only



just resumed. I also have suffered  
much from spasmodic cough. Spent all  
August 2 part of Sept at Llynacombe.  
It is almost constantly wet. I was  
fortunate in having near me the Rev W. S. Moore  
one of Hawke's great contributors to the *Magd.*  
*Britannica*. Mr. M. has also a very fine  
collection of the Birds of N. & S. Devon with  
the habit of some of which he is well acquainted.  
I went there to pay a visit to Miss Griffiths  
a charming daughter of Mr. G. the *Magd.*  
Thief. She lives in & is the owner of a perfect  
little paradise in the shape of Nath. Dodon's  
the village of Trestorhoe. It is not even in  
my power to do it justice. Her cottage is  
situated on an elevated mountain moor  
now resplendent with hollyhocks. Three or  
four species of Bleat Lake about 200 ft. above  
a rapid trout & salmon stream - which strikes  
her property for nearly 3 miles - emptying itself  
into the Bristol Channel at Redons mouth.

The moor behind her abode rises up about 700  
ft. above the level of the sea - & on the summit  
of the ridge is obtained a fine panoramic view  
of both Wales & about ten or twelve miles of  
the Bristol Channel. In all other directions  
she is surrounded by well wooded hills rising  
from 3 to 500 ft. in height. The trees are in all  
stages of growth but no autumnal tints were  
yet visible - with the exception of a large cypress  
wood among oaks - the leaves of which were  
most charming with tints of red & orange from  
pink to scarlet or crimson. The temperature  
of her garden is such as to admit  
of the luxuriant growth of Myrtles, Laurels,  
Olive &c. kinds & very many natives of our  
Australian colonies. While the margin of the little  
river was fringed with *Waterhemp*, *Lythrum*,  
and other low bog plants. The great bar to her  
perfect enjoyment of the place is its great  
fertility & dampness. There being but two extensive  
entailed happy valleys - each two miles in  
length - very narrow & fertile & very rocky -  
I have been thinking of writing a paper on a

plants to succeed well - by in May cases,  
keeping them covered lightly during the  
winter - thereby preventing the stimulating  
injurious effects of winter sunshine

A young friend of mine a Mr Lawson  
is just appointed Botanist to the exploring  
expedition to Palestine. He will I am  
sure not disappoint the expectations of those  
who send - He is D.D. of Trinity College  
Cambridge & is going to take his Degree  
in N.D.

Must now conclude with the good  
news of Stephens perfect restoration to health  
and to the exercise of his profession after nearly  
six months confinement -

Believe me to love the best  
wishes of the Season to you & Mrs Gray & to  
all that are dear to you

Ever your affec. friend

W.D. Ward  
Your act. of dear love has been  
shared all the friends



My dear Gray

Believe me

Yours

On the last fortnight I have been  
confining to those rooms - in consequence  
of a severe attack of bronchitis from over-  
work. The fact is that I am now in my  
5<sup>th</sup> year & cannot bear the fatigue of my  
prof. duties in a wide extensive circle  
of patients - and I should be but too  
glad to enjoy the Sabbath for like in some  
quiet country stage - but this cannot be  
between ourselves. Drury has been a  
great drawback in the acquisition of wealth  
during these years have elapsed since my  
first cases arrived in New Holland. You  
know what has been effected by them since



I have never used the slightest knowledge  
or thanks from any public body in this  
matter - independent of having had hundreds  
of letters & thousands of letters of enquiring to  
answer - and all my time & more than  
it occupied in my visits - from in too  
many cases - idle & ignorant people who  
were tired of their lives forward of some thing  
to do. - But were my time to come over  
again - I should be pleased as I have done  
considering that my life - though one of constant  
labour - has been one of great delight - from  
constant intercourse with the works of God -  
kind communion & fellowship with men  
like yourself - & many others - who  
are able to appreciate their works at something  
like their true value. My enforced confinement  
at home is not at all the more productive - My  
expectations of spending a more & more interesting  
winter, as they are being added to - of the  
base of mountains and alpine countries

The collection of Linnaean specimens from that  
portion of the Niezhernie - devoted to the  
cultivation of Cinchona - is tolerably extensive  
owing to the kindness of D. Wright.

Defying like Oborians & the horizontal  
branches of the trees with the fine Lycopodium  
specimens & ferns pendant from their under-  
surface - numerous small Orchidea & ferns  
among the rocks on the banks are most lovely.  
Numerous species of Piperaceae & their  
allies to the whole. But I need say no  
more to me who knows far better than I  
and that things must be - My great  
delight however is my little garden  
(as I drive me) reminding me of my kind  
friends & myself cramped among the number  
the poor & the last are doing well. The  
moist weather if it suited the things is  
less than most appropriate for them. I  
am likewise getting a number of alpine

Soc. of Apothecaries - How long you have been  
there as a reason to care for all this personally,  
as I never can become a burden to friends - as I  
am one of eight surviving nominees of a Institute,  
dividing among us - £250. a year - and as each  
nominee dies his share goes to the survivors  
so that should I die the surviving men should  
receive the whole as long as I live - and I am  
the junior man of the Inst. - but not the best chief  
to be the first to depart - in which case my  
dear Daughters would be but scantily provided for  
as my closed eyes have never procured for me  
the Marks of the Institute - not interested - whilst  
early all of my time has been occupied in receiving  
visits - or answering letters resp. them - You  
shall no more be troubled thus. The private troubles  
to come to a far more agreeable theme - Your kind  
letters give us a far more pleasing view of you among  
us - May I or we - rather - beg from you and Mr. Gray  
to direct us to you on your arrival in London -  
You are sure that we will do all in our power to  
make you comfortable - and you should do just as you  
please in everything. Stephen & his little girl are  
well & unite with us all kind love regards  
to you & Mr. Gray - Ever, My dear Gray  
Your affec. & devoted friend  
N. D. Ward -

The last from Mrs. Ward [24 April 1868]  
The Deans 24 St. St.  
P.O.

My dear Gray  
I had almost ceased to hope for another  
letter from you - when I recd. your most kind  
note and book - which convinced me that I was  
not quite forgotten here - war - next to death  
stood the highest in my affections - I felt the  
pleasure the more - the more it is I am but just  
recovering from a most severe attack of bronchitis,  
and had not been able to leave my first floor for  
four months - This has compelled me to resign my  
post as Secy. to our Socy - thereby losing 200 guineas  
p. ann. - but certainly gaining an end - since for  
health - as my duties at the Club were rather  
onerous - compelling me to be present in all weathers  
involving me too often in endless discussions in my  
attempts to sustain the efficiency of Chelsea Garden  
and otherwise upholding the reputation of our Socy  
in their endeavours to invade the medical standards  
to higher halcyons - than those engendered by L. S. & Co. -  
I enclose you a syllabus of a course of lectures of great  
interest - the subject originating in the researches of  
Bussen & Reichhoff of Heidelberg, whose names  
I met on my first three years since I wrote Autograph  
- & Dr. Reichhoff was kindly given to me



I have abundant amusement during my confinement - busy in collecting materials for "Aspects of Nature & their Teachings" - but the more I do - the more remains to do - and I fear that they will come to nothing! When I am ready winter it would give me the greatest pleasure to raise the dormant affections of my former neighbors & endeavor to display to them the power wisdom & goodness of God in creation - and to prove to them that man cannot fly - when universal love, not reigns around - Wretchedness of the misery of the poor arises from their total ignorance of God - in his works. - More than a year ago Dr Parker of Bedford - wrote to ask me for a portrait to be published in a work on "eminent men" - to which I deferred knowing well I was not eminent - and he never answered - I tried to take no answer of mine - but had the portrait - and wrote out the memoir from some scanty materials I had sent him & which I had not made more voluminous thinking I should see the work before it was printed - however - by the death of Dr Parker - after which some months elapsed - when I

rec'd a notice that Dr. P. Parker would continue the work - Three or four months further elapsed - when I rec'd another notice - I was solicited by 3 or 4 more - but seeing my name on them - I concluded - that it was not likely to see the light - At last - this morning it came out - the new Editor not having prev. sent me a copy of the work about to publish - but which had been written by his predecessor - All this is true the less one is anxious to you - but the memoir is very defective on one point - viz - that it does not explain as I meant it to have done - the reason why I have done so little - except to nothing - for biblical science! A fact is - that my lot was cast in a district getting yearly more & more impoverished - whilst my family were increasing - I was by a family increasing family - were increasing in an average ratio - my life was for more than 24 years - one of unremitting labor, so that I might truly say of myself as Johnson said of his Apoplexy - "The trifling wants of every day - he had to supply -" Now - this to a certain degree independent - I am suffering with of 2500 phm. in consequence of deprivation of the stomach - whenever any one was derived - and a continued sleep of about four months has compelled me to accept the post of Treas. to the